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Member APNS & CPNE

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daughters. If she wants to

organize jalsa (public meeting) in Turbat or any other city, we would facilitate her, but she must not hold jalsa

in Gwadar as she planned

on July 28.

The Chief Minister

feared that there are serious

threats of terrorism in

Gwadar jalsa as per the in-

ready to hold talks with

everyone who wants to

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Ambassador of Tajikistan to

Pakistan Sharifzoda Yusuf

Toir Friday paid a courtesy

call on Prime Minister

Muhammad Shehbaz

Sharif at the PM House.

The prime minister wel-

comed the ambassador and

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Minister for Information,

Broadcasting, Culture and

National Heritage Attaullah

Tarar on Friday announced

the government's readiness

He said that we are

telligence reports.

hold talks with us.

www.dailyindependent.com.pk

Serious threats of terrorism exist in BYC's jalsa in Gwadar:

asserts armed bandswouldn't be allowed to close roads

the armed band at all. We allocate Hockey chowk for protest where we would also serve them

Ph: 2841470/2841473 REG: No. BC-116 B/ID-445 Vol: XXV No. 334, Muharram 20, 1446 AH Saturday July 27, 2024 Pages 08, Price Rs. 15

However, we would

The Chief Minister

not allow anyone to close roads and deal with those

adopting the course of vio-

was winding up the general

debate on law and order

situation in the session of

Balochistan Assembly on

Friday with Speaker, Abdul

Aslam Umrani.

during the visit.

at the MoUs/agreements

signed between the two

sides during his visit, PM

Shehbaz Sharif urged that

timely implementation and

follow up would help to

strengthen bilateral ties even

further. He renewed his in-

vitation to President

Rahmon to undertake an

official visit to Pakistan at

his earliest convenience,

while adding that Pakistan

was looking forward to

Tajikistan's participation in

the SCO Council of Heads

of Government meeting in

Islamabad in October this

nience to the general pub-

for peace, security and de-

velopment of the country

which is the main agenda of

"We are ready to talk

PM, Tajik envoy discuss

order in the province.

lence with iron hands.



No one can claim to be Muslim without unconditional faith in Khatam-e-Nabuwwat: SC

ISLAMABAD (APP): review petition was announced on July 24, and it writings of Syed Abul Ala kistan in a decision on a was written in Urdu lan- Modoodi and others scholcriminal review petition No.2/2024 stated that no one can claim to be Muslim until he/she has unconditional faith in 'Khatame-Nabuwwat' of Prophet Muhammad Peace Be Upon Him (PBUH).

It said that the court has clearly stated in the verdict that the both group, which called themselves Ahmadi, are nonand the law.

These groups have no right to spread their believes in Muslims at public or private forums. The court has clarified this appeal of the Punjab government, it said.

A press release issued by the top court said that the decision in the criminal

guage so general public can easily understand it. It said that the top

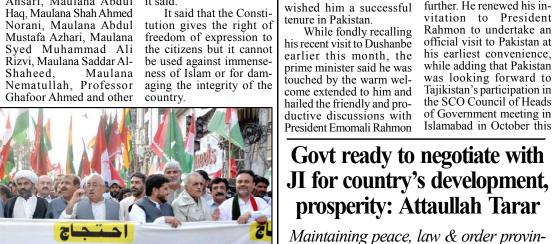
court has sought guidance from authentic educational this, other individuals were also given opportunity to submit written arguments during hearing.

Parliamentary Committee peated opportunities have Muslims in accordance with Sharia, Constitution and took guidelines from on record statements of on record statements of and presenting their opincluding Mufti Mehmood, Maulana Zafar Ahmed Ansari, Maulana Abdul Haq, Maulana Shah Ahmed Norani, Maulana Abdul point while accepting the Mustafa Azhari, Maulana Syed Muhammad Ali Rizvi, Maulana Saddar Al-Shaheed

Ghafoor Ahmed and other

ars are also viewed, which has been mentioned in the

The press release said that the decision has also institutions and except been in line with the previous judgments of Supreme Court and Federal Shariat Court (FSC). Despite this, the people who The apex court also didn't appear before the viewed the proceeding of court after provision of restarted baseless allegations committee members in- ion as more strong over the stance of worthy scholars, which is inappropriate act, it said.



QUETTA: Members of Tehreek-e-Tahafuz Aain-e-Pakistan holding protest demonstration for recovery of missing persons and release of Imran Khan

Leads protest rally & public meeting of Opposition alliance in Quetta:

Achakzai calls for forming national government for three months in country

Independent Report President Tehreek Tahafuz Ayeen-e-Pakistan (TTAP) and Chairman Pashtoonkhaw Milli Awami Party (PkMAP), Mehmood Khan Achakzai has stated that our movement is aimed at ensuring rule of people

in the country.

He said that we want to make such Pakistan where there is supremacy of parliament and rule of people. We also want to

make such Pakistan where there people are free and independent.

He said that we are against terrorism in the country, but would not let anyone to occupy our resources in the name of any operation

He said that we want hold of the people on the resources of their land. There should be first right of the nationalities on their

Continued on page 2

JI announces sit-ins at three locations in Islamabad, Rawalpindi amid crackdown

Monitoring Desk ISLAMABAD: Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) has announced sit-ins at three locations in Islamabad and Rawalpindi following the arrest of its workers and road blockages at D-Chowk. JI workers removed containers at Faizabad and opened the route, allowing a convoy to enter Rawalpindi and set up at

Liaquat Bagh.
JI's central spokesper-

son, Qaiser Sharif, stated that due to the arrests and barriers at D-Chowk, JI decided to hold sit-ins at three locations. "We will hold sit-ins at Murree Road in Rawalpindi, Zero Point, and Chungi No. 26," he

The sit-in at Murree Road will be led by Amirul Azeem, Deputy Amir Dr Osama Razi, along with provincial and district lead-

BA adopts resolution about giving status of Tehsil to Killi Karbala **Independent Report**

QUETTA: Balochistan Assembly adopted the resolution about declaring Killi Karbala of Pishin district as Tehsil, here in its session on Friday.

The session Balochistan Assembly resumed after two-days' break with the Speaker, Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai in the chair. The Member Provincial Assembly belonging to Jamiat Ulema-e-Islami (JUI), Syed Zafar Agha tabled the resolution about giving status of Tehsil to

Killi Karbala. Meanwhile, the resolution about regularization of employees of 1122 Rescue in the session.

The joint resolution was tabled by the MPA belonging to JUI, Mir Zabid

In his resolution, the MPA pointed out that the employees of 1122 have been serving on temporary

basis for last five years. It was also pointed out that the employees of Rescue service have been facing hardships as such they may be regularized.it was

our government," the minto negotiate with the ister said while addressing Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) on their demand in a bid to end Continued on page 2 their sit-in causing inconve-

cial govt's responsibility: Amir Mugam

QUETTA: Provincial Secretary Information Imran Khan being briefed by DGPR Balochistan Muhammad Noor Khetran about record room during his visit of Directorate of Public Relations Balochistan.

General debate on law & order situation in BA session: **Opposition MPAs concerned**

about law & order situation in various parts of Balochistan

Ministers Sadiq Umrani, Ali Madad Jatak say steps being taken to establish peace in Balochistan; law & order situation improved than past

Independent Report

QUETTA: The members of provincial assembly belonging to the Opposition parties have expressed concern about the law and order situation in the province.

They expressed concern about the law and order situation while participating in the general debate held on the issue during session of assembly on Friday. The Speaker, Captain

(Retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai was in the chair. While opening debate on the issue of law and order, the Leader of Opposition, Muhammad Younas Aziz Zehri alleged that the Police and CTD violate the chadar and chaar deewari. He said that the killers of

not be arrested in Khuzdar. He said that we have always remain peaceful,

our (Jamiat) leader could



Minister told that there would be no interference in the police from now.

The IGP may post any police officer as DPO anywhere he wants, the Chief Minister asked him (IGP), however, he added, the House would hold accountability on your mistakes.

While on the other hand, the Chief Minister maintained that the "RAW" funded organized terrorism is being done.

He said that these terrorists have murdered 4,000 civilians in the province. He suggested to hold another debate against this

He said that hatred is Continued on page 2



ERA BUGTI: A delegation of tribal elites meeting with Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti

President approves appointment of two ad hoc judges to SC

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari has approved the appointment of retired Justices Sardar Tariq Masood and Mazhar Alam Khan Miankhel as ad hoc judges of the Supreme Court of Pakistan for a one year

Both judges have previously served on the Supreme Court of Pakistan. Their appointment is made under Article 182 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Terrorist killed in N Waziristan **IBO**

RAWALPINDI (Online): Security Forces conducted an intelligence based operation in North Waziristan District on reported presence of terrorists on Friday. According to ISPR,

during conduct of the operation, after intense fire exchange, Khawarji Terrorist Razzaq was sent to hell.

He was a close associate of Khawarji Gul Bahadur and was actively involved in numerous terrorist activities in the area including target killing of Malik Sher Muhammad, grandson of Faqir of Ippi on 6 January 2023 as well as facilitation of suicide bombing attack in North Waziristan on 16 March 2024 which resulted in shahadat of seven brave

Ambreen Jan appointed **Federal Secretary Information & Broadcasting**

ISLAMABAD (APP): The federal government on Friday appointed Ambreen Jan, a senior officer of the Information Group Grade 21, as the Federal Secretary for Information and Broadcasting. The

Secretariat's Establishment Division issued a notification confirming Ambreen Jan's appointment to the position of Secretary for Information and Broadcast-

Prior to this appointment, Ambreen Jan served as the Executive Director General of the External Publicity Wing within the added.



Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Her appointment was made under Section 10 of the Civil Servants Act, 1973, the notification

Steps being taken for establishing good governance in **Balochistan: Sarfraz Bugti**

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has stated that the steps are being taken for establishing good governance in the province. He said that the process of reforms is very necessary for committee has been formed.

He said that determination of right direction is more important than time.

The Chief Minister was speaking to the public delegations who called on him during his visit to native district, Dera Bugti on

Friday afternoon. Also present on the occasion were the Provincial Ministers Mir Shoaib Nausherwani, Muhammad Sadiq Umrani, Mir Muhammad Asim Kurd and Parliamentary Secretary, Muhammad Khan Lehri

The Chief Minister met the public delegations and gave patient hearing to the issues raised by them.

He issued on the spot directives to the concerned authorities to address the



QUETTA: Inspector General of Police Balochistan Abdul Khaliq Sheikh presiding over a meeting regarding law and order situation. Commissioner Quetta Division Hamza Shafqaat is also present

Political philosophy & discourse, shared democracy formulate means to cope with challenges facing institutions & democratic behaviors: Governor

Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor

Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has stated that the political philosophy as well as political discourse and shared democracy are the concepts connected with one another which formulate the means to cope with the challenges

institutions and the democratic behaviors.

the conclusion after doing practical politics for around four decades that one should continue the process of mutual consultation and grand alliance at the country's level instead of making any final decision being faced by the political in the politics and state.

Because the public confidence is increased after He said that he got to taking in view the diverse opinions of different political leaders and experts and hearing the voices of silent

majority

The Governor was speaking to different del-egations who called on him

Continued on p age 2



and flour.

The PM said that de-

spite limited resources the

government had fulfilled its demands adding that there

was a dire need that the

people must also acknowl-

edge their duties towards the

state. He said that the gov-

ernment was keen to ad-

dress the issue of unem-

ployment and provide ba-

sic amenities of life to the

AJK PM says

Kashmiris to continue freedom struggle till achievement of freedom from Indian occupation

(AJK) Prime Minister (PM) Chaudhry Anwar Haq reiterating Kashmiris' pledge to continue the ongoing struggle for freedom to its logical conclusion, said that the movement would continue until the people of the Indian Illegally Occupied Kashmir (IIOJK) achieve their goal of free-

He made these assertions while addressing a public gathering in Town, Tatta Pani of Kotli district. Denouncing the barbar-

ism and brutality inflicted upon the people of occupied Kashmir by India, the prime minister expressed the optimism that the day was not far when India's imperialistic presence in the occupied territory of Jammu and

Independent Report

SIBI: Deputy Commis-

sioner Sibi Jahanzeb Sheikh

has said that the PHED

department is working

swiftly to clean all nullahs

to ensure the supply of

clean drinking water to citi-

zens. He expressed these

views during a visit to the

central nullahs and pond of

the PHED department, ac-

companied by Additional

Deputy Commissioner

General Ali Asghar Magsi

and XEN PHED Mir

the Deputy Commissioner

XEN PHED informed

Shahak Baloch.

and brothers and sisters who made unprecedented sacrifices would be free from the Indian bondage.

He also paid great tributes to valiant people who had been bearing the brunt of Indian firing and shelling across the Line of Control

Keiterating government's all-out support to Kashmiri's struggle, the PM said the people and AJK government would never leave their brethren in IIOJK alone in their battle against India's illegal occu-

Referring to the age-old political, cultural and religious bond between the people of Kashmir and Pacistan, the PM said that the bond between the people of both regions was unbreak-

QUETTA: Internee students of University and Cadet College meeting with

Director General Public Relations Balochistan Muhammad Noor Khetran

that the cleaning process of

nullahs is underway and

will be completed soon. He

added that due to the flood

situation, the water is cur-

rently not clean, but after

the rains, citizens will have

access to clean water at their

doorsteps without any dif-

Sibi Jaĥanzeb Sheikh also

inspected the Water Distri-

bution System at the Nari

River site of the Irrigation

Department. XEN Irriga-

tion Khadim Chandio

briefed the Deputy Com-

missioner on the details of

water distribution.

Deputy Commissioner

ficulties.

Clean Drinking Water:

PHED Department ensures

swift cleaning of nullahs

'The basic relationship between Pakistan and Kashmir is based on Islamic faith", he said, adding that no one could harm the rela-

Taking a jibe on the Indian prime minister, the PM Haq said that nobody could dent this relationship even if thousands of Modi come together. Prime Minister Haq said that his government would focus on developing far-flung areas of the state which were neglected in previous tenures.

Hollow slogans. empty assurances and false announcements spoiled us", he said adding that time had come to change this culture.

said that the government was providing a subsidy of

DC Hub expedites

repairs on

alternative route

to Hub River

HUB (APP): The Deputy

Ruhana Gul Kakar on Fri-

day sped up the repair

work on the alternative

route connecting Sindh and

Balochistan along the Hub

fice, Rehana Gul Kakar

took immediate notice of the

damage to the alternative

route and contacted offi-

cials from the National

She urged them to com-

nence maintenance and re-

pair work on the route

Authority

According to DC Of-

River, on Friday.

Highway

without delay

(NHA).

Commissioner (DC) Hub.



Bravado and jingoism underminé regional peace, and are totally counter-productive for resolution of long-standing disputes between Pakistan and India, especially the core dispute of Jammu and Kashmir, said a press release issued by foreign office spokesperson.

tion of the Kashmir con-

The Indian leaders' rhetorical statements cannot deflect international attention from India's heavy-handed approach to suppress the Kashmiri people's just struggle for realization of their fundamental rights and freedoms, particularly their inalienable right to selfdetermination.

Khosa house

Pakistan rejects Indian

prime minister's

Instead of maligning others for terrorism, India should reflect on its own campaign of orchestrating targeted assassinations, subversion and terrorism in foreign territories. Pakistan

resolute in its intent and ability to safeguard its sovereignty against any aggression, as ex-emplified by its robust response to India's reckless incursion in Febru-

While Pakistan is to counter readv India's aggressive actions, it remains committed to promoting peace and stability in the region. DISCOs.

CPPA seeks **Rs 2.63 per** unit increase in tariff for June

SOHBATPUR: A delegation meeting with Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti at

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Central Power Purchasing Agency (CPPA-G) has sought Rs 2.63 per unit increase in power tariff for June under monthly fuel cost adjustment (FCA) mechanism.

In a petition submitted to National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) on behalf of XWAPDA power distribution companies (DISCOs), the CPPA-G maintained the actual cost of electricity remained Rs 9.77 per unit against reference fuel charges of Rs 7.14 per unit for the month of A total of 13,459 GWh

electricity worth Rs 119,704 million was generated during the said period while net 13,071 **GWh worth Rs 127,712** million was delivered to

PML-N moves resolution against 'digital terrorism'

LAHORE (INP): The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) has submitted a resolution against 'digital terrorism' in the Punjab Assembly. PML-N member Raheela Khadim Hussain presented the reso-

The resolution states that 'digital terrorism' is undermining the political and social foundations of the country. It highlights that these terrorists often attack institutions and harass officers and their families. The resolution further

mentions that acts of 'digital terrorism' are also publicized internationally, tarnishing the country's image. It accuses social media vloggers of engaging in malicious activities at the behest of disruptive political parties.

The text of the resolution asserts that political leaders, workers, and institutions are not safe from

other officials.

digital terrorism. It also references a fake ip attributed to Uzma Bukhari that was widely circulated, which had no basis in reality. The resolution calls for strict measures

to stop digital terrorists and

punish them severely. The federal government has designated special courts in Islamabad under the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act (Peca), 2016, to try "digital terrorists" and those allegedly involved in spreading "anti-state pro-paganda" through digital content in the virtual world,

emerged on Tuesday. The federal government's decision to try people under Peca surfaced after the law ministry issued a notification pertaining to the establishment of the special courts, stating that the decision was taken after consulting the chief justice of the Islamabad High Court



QUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan presiding over a meeting regarding Green Pakistan Initiatives

Opposition MPAs concerned...

Continued from page 1 war together.

and demand rights while remaining peaceful.

JUI, Mir Zabid Reki said that the incidents of kidnapping for ransom are occurring in the province. The Jamiat'e leaders are also being killed, but whereabouts of the killers are not being known, he alleged.

He said that the law and order situation is particularly very bad in Tehsil Mashkail of Washuk district. Mir Zabid Reki demanded of the government to arrest and take the kidnappers and killers to task. He also demanded ac-

tion against those backing the kidnappers and killers. Similarly, the MPA of JUI, Syed Zafar Agha

pointed out that the law and order situation has been worsening in Pishin district with every passing day. He said that the incidents of theft of vehicles have become common. He

demanded of the government to take steps for restoration of law and order in The National Party's MPA Rehmat Saleh Baloch said that every segment of the society wants peace in the province. He said that

Balochistan was subjected

to the proxy war and as

such we have to fight this

He said that all of us would have to unite against

violence and terrorism. He The MPA belonging to said that 10 districts of the province were affected due to the proxy war started in He pointed out that the

incidents of theft and dacoities have been increased in Panjgur during last two years.

He said that the culprits managed to escape despite the geofencing done after the law and order incidents. He also pointed out that use and selling of drugs is common in Panjgur, and adding demanded of the government to take steps its prevention.

The MPA Ghulam Dastagir Badini noted with concern that vehicles of worth millions of rupees are stolen despite the modern technology. He said that huge money is being spent in the IT sector, but to no avail. He pleaded to provide modern facilities to police force for improving law and order situation in the prov-

Responding to the speeches of Opposition MPAs, the Provincial Minister for Irrigation, Mir Sadiq Umrani said that it is utmost effort of Chief Minister Balochistan to restore law and order in the province.

Ceremony organized regarding World **Population Day in** Dera Allah Yar

OUETTA (APP): Like Jafarabad across the country, a grand ceremony was organized in Dera Allah Yar area of Balochistan on the occasion of World Population Day on Friday.

Addressing at the ceremony as Chief guest, Assistant Commissioner Dera Allah Yar Fahad Cheema said that parents should make it mandatory for them to give birth to their children at least two years apart.

It has a great effect on the health of mother and child, in today's modern era there are family planning centers in every area where you can get useful advice regarding child bearing, he said.

Political philosophy....

Continued from page 1 here at the Governor's

House on Friday. He said that unfortunately the traditions of past and deep routed beliefs are also included in the politics of third world, which cause divisions and polarization among human beings.

This makes difficult to find out joint base among the people.

The Governor said that we have learnt to unite the people instead of dividing people in the politics. He said that we have

always preferred to unite different nations and religious sects instead of creating environment of confrontation in the society. He made clear that we

can't afford more hatred. disputes and deprivation of rights in view of the tough economic situation and political and economic changes in the region.

Therefore, the mutual understanding and shared method can lead us more comprehensive, equitable and justified political course.

Continued from page 1 He strongly criticized the move of rulers regarding banning PTI in the country. Mehmood Achakzai was addressing He said that we have not the grand protest public been told yet how the country was dismantled in 1971.

meeting organized by the opposition parties alliance at Bacha Khan Chowk here cians are involved in weakon Friday evening.

The leaders of different opposition parties including Balochistan National Party, Pashtoonkhaw Milli Awami Party, Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf, Majlis Wahdat-e-Muslameen and others participated in the public meeting.

While presiding over the public meeting, Mehmood Khan Achakzai said that our alliance is not meant for insulting anyone. He lamented the wrong

policies of the rulers saying that Pakistan has reached this brink due to the wrong policies.

He said that we want such Pakistan in which no

rulers as thieves saying that they have sold the public assemblies.

He said that it is essential for us to love our coun-

new elected representatives by holding general elections after three months. Earlier, the grand rally was taken out under leadership of Mehmood Khan Achakzai from the lawns of Quetta Metropolitan Corporation.

He said that all politi-

ening the country. This is

way in future, adding he

Achakzai also suggested to

form national government

for three months and then

hand over the government to

Mehmood

stressed.

through Adalat road, Shahrah-e-Iqbal and terminated at Bacha Khan Chowk where public meeting was held. The prominent leaders

The rally passed

of opposition parties including Sajid Tareen Advocate, Abdul Rahim Ziaratwal, Dr. Hamid Achakzai, Provincial President of PTI, Dawood Shah Kakar, Malik Naseer Shahwani and others.

cal staff, availability of medicines, and other key challenges. Deputy Commissioner Jalil Ahmed emphasized the need for pre-emptive measures to address the challenges posed by monsoon rains, citing the experiences of

District Health Committee

meets to address

monsoon challenges

Independent Report
USTA MUHAMMAD: A meeting of the District Health

Committee was held in Usta Muhammad on July 20,

2024, under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner

Jalil Ahmed. The meeting was attended by District Health

Officer Dr. Abdul Mannan Lakhti, Assistant Commis-

sioner Usta Muhammad Muhammad Ramzan Ishaq, and

healthcare facilities, attendance of doctors and paramedi-

The meeting discussed various issues related to

previous floods. The Deputy Commissioner stressed that it is essential to take precautionary measures, including ensuring the availability of essential medicines and the attendance of all doctors and paramedical staff at their designated places. He also directed that strict action be taken against

absenteeism among health staff and that monitoring be ensured to address the issue. The meeting was also briefed on the performance

eport by District Support Manager Shahjahan Mengal.

Achakzai calls for forming...

why we have to mend our

institution has permission to interfere. He asserted that we would form new Pakistan with power of masses. He called the present

try and land.

Govt ready to negotiate with.... Continued from page 1

a news conference along with Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan Amir Muqam.

The minister said JI Chief Hafiz Naeem ur Rehman was a seasoned and far-sighted leader whose guidance would be instrumental for the government to address the existing issues within the existing framework.

He said the government was ready to form a threemember committee which would comprise of him, Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan Amir Muqam and PML-N Senior Leader Tariq Fazal.

Tarar called upon the JI leadership to sit and guide the government in resolving the issues instead of doing the "politics of agita-

The JI was given permission only to stage their sit-in at Liaquat Bagh, Rawalpindi, he said, urging them to use only the dedicated place for the purpose.

There was no need to obstructing a public servant in discharge of his/her duty and creating hurdles for the people, he said, regretting one or the other group had made it a routine to swarm the twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad that caused traffic issues for the people including patients and professionals.

The minister urged the JI leadership to follow the Standard Operation Procedures agreed with the local

administration. Protest at the D-Chowk would not be allowed at any cost since there was a possibility of a mischief due to involvement of any miscreant, he maintained.

The minister urged the JI leadership to have a faith in the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif

hours a day to implement the agenda of home grown economic reforms that included privatization of loss making entities, digitization of the Federal Board of Revenue for documentation non-documented

Deputy Commissioner Sibi Jahanzeb Sheikh visits central nullahs and pond of

economy, addition of new filers in the tax net and other initiatives. He said it was top priority of the government to achieve home grown eco-

nomic reforms that had started providing fiscal space to offer subsidy to the people in electricity

He said privatization of the FBR was underway to plug loopholes in system to stop billions of rupee leakage and add new filers into the tax net. "We are moving forward rapidly on economic reforms to bring positive changes in

people's life," he added. The minister said PM Shehbaz Sharifled the government during the tenure of Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) and took concrete measures to stabilize the rupee, reduce inflation and on top of that successfully the country.

It was speculated that Pakistan may get default and foreign investors would withdraw their investment, but PM Shehbaz Sharif saved the country from economic collapse despite ports were false and conthe efforts to sabotage a deal with the International

Monetary Fund, he added. Tarar recalled the achievements of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) government in 2018 when the economy was growing at 6 per cent and inflation was clocked at 4 per cent with the unit of electricity cost

only Rs 8 per unit. The minister said the

who had been working 20 PML-N government had steered the country out of the crises in the past and would do so in future with the grace of the Almighty. Inflation had been brought down to 11 per cent, stock exchange witnessing highest activity in the last couple of months with all the economic indicators on up-

ward trajectory, he added. Tarar regretted a halt on the country's development during the tenure of the PTI government which was led by a "corrupt person" who borrowed money massively and benefited himself and his close aides by selling Toshakhana gifts and striking a shady deal worth

190 million pounds. "Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan and SAFRON Engineer Amir Muqam on Friday said it was the responsibility of the provincial government to maintain peace and law and order in the province.

Addressing a joint press conference along with the Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Atta Tarar, Amir Muqam said that currently there was no operation under-Khyber in averted a default for Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and country's top leadership has already clarified on the

matter. Amir Muqam rejected all allegations of the Opposition about the operation all such news recocted.

CM Bugti extends offer of talks

Continued from page 1

spread against the security forces on social media to weaken the country. He said that Pakistan

army is the public army. There 28,000 jawas are from Balochistan in the army, adding he mentioned.

Third issue related to law and order is that the police is provoked to violence in the name of protest, the Chief Minister referred to the type of law and order faced in the prov-

In this regard, he also referred to the protest that had been staged by BYC in Quetta some time back. He

said that the protestors had

zone for occupation. He asserted that we can't hand over Red zone

to the armed band at all. He said that we allocate Hockey chowk for protest where we would also serve Referring the public

meeting planned by BCY on July 28 in Gwadar, the Chief Minister said that the public meeting is being held at a time when the second phase of CPEC is about to

He said that there happen to be international movement in Gwadar. While there are also threats of terrorism during protest in Gwadar which would be done by a banned organization itself, he feared.



DG NAB (Balochistan) listening complainants during Khuli Kachehri held at NAB's complaint office at DC Office Quetta

cal Assistance Program and

scored its commitment to

fostering economic growth, stability, and sustainable

development through stra-

tegic planning and effective

implementation of policies.

A comprehensive overview of EAD's organi-zational structure was pre-

sented, outlining the vari-

ous divisions and depart-

ments tasked with specific

functions aimed at achiev-

ing national economic ob-

jectives. In addition, the

Ministry detailed its cen-

tral role responsible for co-

ordination with interna-

tional financial institutions

Pakistan's engagement with bilateral and multilateral

partners, the ministry high-

ighted efforts in securing

and effectively utilizing

foreign economic assistance

to support national devel-

provided into the manage-

ment of Pakistan's external

debt, including strategies for

Defailed insights were

opment priorities.

debt sustainability

Emphasizing

and donor agencies.

The ministry under-

project financing.

NA Committee on EAD

briefed about evolution,

mandate of ministry

ISLAMABAD (APP): trainings, Pakistan Techni-

National Assembly Stand-

ing Committee on Eco-

nomic Affairs Division on

Friday was briefed about

the evolution, mandate, or-

ganizational structure and

management of Ministry of

Economic Affairs Division

Muhammad Atif Member of National Assembly in

the chair was also apprised

about foreign economic as-

sistance, external debt,

other key functions, chal-

lenges faced and the strate-

gic road map for the future

of EAD, said a press re-

retary Ministry of Economic Affairs and officials

from the Ministry of Eco-

nomic Affairs Division,

provided deep insights into

the historical evolution of

EAD, highlighting its piv-

otal role in debt manage-

ment, loans, external debt

They also apprised the meeting about govern-

ment borrowing, external

public debt, policies for lo-

cal NGOs, Joint Ministe-

rial Commission, foreign

and liabilities.

Dr Kazim Niaz Sec-

The meeting held with

Building disaster resilience of socio-economic sectors PM's top priority: Romina

ISLAMABAD (APP): collaboration with interna-Minister on Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Romina Khurshid Alam said that climate change-caused various disasters mainly floods and heatwaves are now a major cause of massive socio-economic damages in Pakistan. But, the present government is taking all-out policy measures to enhance the country's climate resilience against the recurring and intensifying disasters.

Chairing a high-level meeting on Strengthening Pakistan's Shield Against Climate Change impacts here on Friday, Romina Khurshid Alam that said despite poor economic conditions, the country remains committed to overcoming environmental and climate risks through whatever financial resources are

"Climate change significantly impacts Pakistan, affecting various aspects of life and the environment and these negative fallouts have left no option for us but to focus on building climate adaptation and improving disaster preparedness to protect lives and livelihoods of our people and environment," the prime minister's

without exploring available funding opportunities in

tional organisations including the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, Pakistan would not be able to overchange impacts such as increasing floods, heatwaves, water scarcity, droughts, crop failures, declining crop productivity, biodiversity loss, sea-level rise and sea intrusion and health diseases. However, "we are coordinating with national and international organisations

such as Global Shield to help Pakistan avail existing

funding resources for build-

ing the country's socio-economic resilience through climate risk mitigation policy initiatives. During the meeting Deputy Resident Representative for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Pakistan, Van Nguyen briefed the PM's climate aide about the Global Shield and how Pakistan can avail from its funding and technical capacity-building facilities to build up the country's resilience against the various climate risks,

During the meeting representatives from the ministry and UNDP-Pakistan both sides discussed at length the matters related to She cautioned that the climate risk mitigation, climate finance for adaptation and mitigation mea-

particularly disasters.

urban flood resilience.

Briefed the PM's aide Romina Khurshid Alam, the senior UNDP-Pakistan official Van Nguyen also discome exacerbating climate cussed processes for benefiting from the Global Shield against Climate Risks initiative, saying the new global funding mechanism aimed to close protection gaps in climate-vulnerable countries like Pakistan using pre-arranged finance for improving disaster risk management.

Basically, the Global

Shield against Climate Risks initiative is more and better pre-arranged and trigger-based financial resource, which is immediately-available fund in response to disasters, in the most efficient, effective and fastest way for the economy, businesses, and communities in the most climate-vulnerable countries," she said further while conversing with the PM's aide Ms Alam. Sharing details during the meeting, Regional Director South Asia at the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) & Vulnerable Twenty Group (V20), Hamza Ali Haroon apprised the PM's aide Romina Khurshid Advisor further said that the Vulnerable Twenty Group (V20) together with the Group of Seven (G7) and other supporting countries



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani witnessing the Art Exhibition, at Pakistan National Council of Arts (PNCA) in Islamabad.

100,000 laptops to be distributed among students on merit; Chairman PMYP

Minister Programme (PMYP)Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan

on Friday said that around 100,000 laptops would be given to the students on merit during the year

laptops have been distributed to the students under the Prime Minister Laptop scheme so far while during the last three years 64 per cent were successful in get-**Aleem visits under**

Minister for Board of In-

vestment, Privatization

and Communications Abdul Aleem Khan visited

the under construction

business facilitation center

and directed to maintaining

the quality of work, besides

expediting speed of work of

the project with the col-

laboration of Board of In-

vestment and Capital De-

tion Center being estab-

lished under the banner of

the Board of Investment,

where business community will get one-window facili-

ties and their problems of

business related depart- this pattern.

A Business Facilita-

velopment Authority.

Programme

The Chairman PMYP said that the government was working with the National Vocational and Technical Training Commission on skill development, According to the PMYP office spokesperson, as many as 600,000 youth development especially the provision of programmes.

"This year, we aim to provide direct training to over two lac youth and indirect training to over six lac youth to meet the demand

one roof, said a press re-

directed the change in the

layout plan of the Business

Facilitation Center and di-

rected that 40 counters will

work simultaneously to

solve the problems of busi-

nessmen in this center

while for this purpose

committed officers edu-

cated from universities

should be deputed on these

desks to attend the business

ity center should be a model

institution as more such

centers will be built later on

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Communications, Privatization and Board

of Investment, Abdul Aleem Khan visited site of Business Facilitating Centre.

NA speaker, Italian envoy discuss

bilateral ties, parliamentary coop.

ing with the Italian Ambas-

sador to Pakistan, Mrs.

Marilina Armellin, who

lease, during the meeting,

the two sides discussed a

wide range of regional and

significance of continuous

collaboration to maintain a

positive trajectory in bilat-

eral relations and explore

new areas of engagement.

global developments.

According to news re-

They underscored the

While discussing par-

called on him.

speaker said during a meet- liamentary cooperation, the

ences.

He said that this facil-

community

Abdul Aleem Khan

construction business

facilitation center

ISLAMABAD (APP): ments will be solved under

ISLAMABAD (APP): ting jobs trained under the Chairman of the Prime Youth Skill Development which will enable Pakistan to send skilled youth abroad for positive engage-

> The Chairman also mentioned that individuals securing jobs abroad will be provided with interest-free loans to facilitate the necessary paper

Additionally, through the "Laptop for All" scheme, students can obtain any laptop they want on interest-free loans with easy monthly instalments, he added

IGP directs legal team for swift action

ISLAMABAD (APP): Inspector General of Police (İGP) İslamabad Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi on Friday issued instructions to the Director of Law Tahir Kazam and the legal team to complete the pending police cases in the high court on time. According to the Islamabad Police spokesman (IGP) Islamabad Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi chaired an important meeting with Director of Law Tahir

Kazam and the legal team.

He said that the IGP reviewed the progress reports on the pending cases involving Islamabad Police in the High Courts and consulted the legal team on vari ous legal issues.



ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Police in action against Jamaat Islami Dharna participants in the Federal

British HC reflects on warm hospitality & natural Beauty of Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): As heritage, and warm hospi-Jane Marriott marks her first year in Pakistan, she expressed her profound gratitude for the warm welcome and hospitality.

lights, Marriott shared her Karachi's Biryani. fond memories and acemphasizing UK's commitment to support the country. Upon completing her first year in Pakistan, Jane Marriott in her message said that she had arrived in Pakistan with high expectations and has been impressed by the country's natural beauty, rich cultural

British High Commissioner tality. She expressed her gratitude to the people of Pakistan for making her feel at home. She fondly recalled her hiking trips to Margalla Hills and Nathia Gali, and From hiking in her experiences with Paki-Margalla Hills to savoring stani cuisine, from the country's culinary de- Peshawar's Kebabs to

Marriott also knowledged the current knowledged the challenges challenges Pakistan while Pakistan was facing including economic reforms, climate change, and education.

However, she expressed the confidence in the resilience and innovative nature of the Pakistani people, and reiterated the UK's commitment to support Pakistan as a close friend and partner.

Security officers briefed for effective duty at HSZ

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: Following the special directives of Inspector General of Police (ÎGP) Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi on Friday the police officers deputed at High Security Žone (HSŽ) were briefed to perform effective duties and be ready to deal with any untoward incident in a timely manner. According to Police spokesman SP High Security Zone Raza Ullah Khan briefed the Islamabad police officers

Security Zone. The high security zone encompasses pivotal government and private es- zens.

who were deputed to High

tablishments, diplomatic missions, and other vital assets, necessitating an unwavering focus on their safeguarding.

The police officers were directed to be ready to deal with any untoward incident in a timely manner.

Officers should remain alert during duty and keep a close watch on suspicious vehicles and individuals he added.

SP Security has further directed the officers on duty to uphold the highest standards of diligence and professionalism, cultivating a positive rapport with citi-

Consultation conference series "T

speaker called for regular in-

teraction between parlia-

ments, mainly through par-

liamentary friendship

groups and the exchange of

parliamentary delegations,

in order to share and learn

from each other's experi-

pressed gratitude to the

speaker for his kind re-

marks and reiterated that

Italy considered Pakistan

as an important regional

The Ambassador ex-

The National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW), in collaboration with the UN Women, has concluded the second phase of its innovative consultation conference series, "The

Speaker of the National

Assembly Sardar Ayaz

Sadiq Friday said that Pa-

kistan and Italy enjoy a

long-standing cordial rela-

tions based on a shared

commitment to global peace

and sustainable develop-

hance political, cultural,

economic, and people-to-

people connections be-

tween the two countries for

the mutual benefit of the

people on both sides, the

"It is high time to en-

ment.

cused on developing a comprehensive National Agenda to enhance women's role in politics and promote their economic empowerment.

The "Next Horizon" conference series marks a significant milestone for NCSW, as it is the first of its kind to unite a diverse group of stakeholders, including policymakers, activists, academics, and community leaders.

The primary objective of these conferences is to facilitate inclusive dialogue that will shape policies and strategies to empower women and girls across the country. Speaking on the occasion, Ms. Nilofar Bakhtiar, Chairperson NCSW said it's an immediate requirement to address the concerning state of women's political partici-

challenges ahead. She said, "We are at a critical juncture in our nation's history where women's voices should be heard, amplified, and integrated into the political process. Empowering women in politics is not just about equality; it's about enhanc-

pation and outlining the

ing the very fabric of our democracy.' Hina Pervaiz Butt,

MPA Punjab emphasized on the need for change that is systematic in the participation of women politically, stating, "Despite the progress we have made, the journey towards gender equality in politics remains incomplete. It is crucial that we address and dismantle the structural barriers preventing women's full participation. Saman Ahsan OIC UN Women highlighted the importance of women's role in politics. Empowering women in politics is crucial for creating a more representative and effective governance system

Taqdees Kausar

Gillani, Minister of State, Azad Jammu and Kashmir said, "Women's political participation is essential for achieving gender equality and strengthening democracy. We must ensure that women's voices are not only heard but are central to our nation's governance."

Raheela Hameed Khan Durrani, Balochistan Education Minister outlined her vision for addressing the province's diverse challenges through inclusive growth, social cohesion, and effective governance. Shaheena Sher Ali.

Minister of Women Development Department, Sindh said empowering women requires challenging outdated roles and creating stan"

laws that support their participation in national and international fields. Despite advance-

ments, women in Pakistan face substantial obstacles to political engagement. In the general elections 2024, only 4.6% of general seat candidates were women. Gender quotas and reserved seats have not significantly accelerated women's rise to influential roles, with barriers such as economic dependency, sociocultural resistance, and limited access to leadership training.
NCSW launched its

report titled "Protection of women and girls, legislative, policy and institutional Framework of Paki-



ISLAMABAD: Senator Muhammad Abdul Qadir, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Defence Production presiding over a meeting of the committee at Parliament House.

ISLAMABAD: Coordinator to Prime Minister on Climate Change, Romina Khurshid Alam chairing a meeting with members of Global Shield against Climate Risks, an international funding and technical capacity building Muqam chairs meeting

Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs, Gilgit Baltistan & SAFRON Engr Amir Muqam Friday chaired a review meeting regarding preparations for Youm-e-Istehsal on August 5 and directed all the departments concerned to work in harmony to observe the day effectively.

regarding preparations

for Youm-e-Istehsal

The representatives of federal ministries, provincial governments, Gilgit-Baltistan, Azad Jammu & Kashmir Government and various departments briefed the minister regarding preparations for "Youm-e-Îstehsal", said a press release.

Addressing the participants of the meeting, Amir Muqam said that India has forcibly occupied Jammu and Kashmir for over 76 years.

tions of August 5, 2019, after which the special status of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK) was abolished against all UN resolutions and the will of the people of Kashmir. Pakistan will continue to extend its unwavering support to its Kashmiri brothers and sis-

ters, he added. The minister said the voice of the Kashmiris will be conveyed to the entire world and the Pakistani nation will continue to pursue the just settlement of Jammu & Kashmir dispute.

Amir Muqam directed all the relevant institutions to work together in harmony to observe Youm-e-Istehsal in an effective manner. He also advised ensuring maximum participation of the public.



ISLAMABAD: A view of heavy containers placed at entrance of red zone due to Jamaat-e-Islami sit protest (Dharna) at D-Chowk, in the Federal Capital.

Sri Lankan nation esteems Pak for its support against terrorism: Amb Ravindra

ISLAMABAD (APP): fought thirty years long High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, Ambassador Admiral ® Ravindra C Wijegunaratne on Friday said the people of Sri Lanka esteemed Pakistan as a friendly country unlike any other nation for its unprecedented support against terrorism. He was addressing the Institute of Regional Studies (IRS)'s seminar on "Building on Pakistan-Sri Lanka Cooperation" here as

the keynote speaker. Ambassador Ravindra said Sri Lanka's Prime Minister and the world's first female premier Sirimavo Bandaranaike despite her close relationship with her Indian counterpart Indira Gandhi gave safe passage and permission to Pakistan to use its airspace and Colombo air base during its

However, Sri Lank economy," he suggested.

worst war against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), he said, adding, "No nation supported us like Pakistan in this war and we have memory like elephants to keep it intact in our minds.'

The Pakistan Armed Forces, he said had forged deep ties with the Sri Lankan military that played a crucial and decisive part in the war against LTTE.

Sri Lanka, he said had 74% Buddhist,16% Muslims and the remaining part of population comprising of Hindus. "Pakistan is sitting on a goldmine of Gandhara civilization based Buddhist site whereas 9.3 million Buddhist globally visit their religious sites world over that can be tapped by Pakistan to benefit its tourism sector and national

CDA Chairman orders swift development in I'abad's sectors

Capital Development Authority (CDA) Chairman Mohammad Ali Randhawa directed authorities concerned to accelerate development work in various

With regard to longstanding issues of Sector E-12 residents, the Chairman directed the establishment of a single window facility to provide legitimate rehabilitation benefits to af-

Furthermore. Randhawa instructed officials to remove bottlenecks hindering progress in Sector C-15, ensuring swift development in the area.

Expressing satisfaction with the ongoing development in Sectors C-14 and C-16, the Chairman commended the team's efforts and encouraged them to maintain the momen-

arrested, cash,

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: Following the special directions of Inspector General of Police (İGP) İslamabad Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, on Friday, the Islamabad Police conducted a crackdown and arrested two wanted members of a criminal gang involved in looting citizens and snatching activities.

A police spokesman said the Sumbal police station team used technical and human resources to apprehend the two wanted members of a snatcher gang involved in several incidents of looting citizens at gunpoint. They recovered snatched cash, weapons and a dagger from their possession

The accused were identified as Adnan and Nisar. A case was registered against the nabbed accused. and further investigation is underwa

Ali Raza stated that the Islamabad Police are taking all possible measures to protect the lives and property of citizens, ensuring no criminal element disturbs the neace

sectors to facilitate the resi-

He instructed in a meeting held the other day to review development

work in various sectors fected individuals.

Police crackdown: 2 gang members weapons recovered

ISLAMABAD (APP): Next Horizon. This initiative is fo-

DIG Islamabad Syed

Daily Joice of Masse Independent

Saturday July 27, 2024

Judicial constraints

There is little wrong with the proposal in principle, even if the timing raises some concerns. During a Wednesday session, the Senate Standing in Pakistan. But before Committee on Law and Justice agreed on the need to increase the number of Supreme Court judges, citing the growing pendency of cases before the apex

The law minister suggested that the backlog has grown because judges ignore timelines as they are not accountable for their performance; the committee chair, however, held that the Supreme Court is simply receiving more cases because the number of high court judges has increased, which has sped up the resolution of cases at the lower level, leading to more appeals landing before the apex court. A legislative bill on the matter has been deferred till the committee members can see 'empirical evidence' to support their decision, but the committee agrees that the number of judges could be increased at any time through simple legislation.

While the number of cases piling up at the Supreme Court does support the suggestion for inducting more judges, it would have been better if the proposal had come from the prime example of successful international collaborajudiciary itself. The fact that it is being prescribed by the legislature will be questioned, given the political context. In too many instances, the current government has attempted to bypass challenges to its rule with tailored legisla-

Accountability laws, election TenU, the new consortium of top 10 universities. Its laws, laws governing the armed forces and intelligence services, laws affecting the functioning of the judiciary and even laws directly affecting fundamental rights have been tinkered with and changed in How safe a place is Pakithe past two years to align with According to the human the ruling class's priorities, often without taking opposition opinions into account. At the same time, key government leaders have taken highly confrontational positions against the judiciary every time a decision has gone against them. The reaction to the recent reserved seats case is a case in port issued annually since 2001 by the US State De-

This creates doubts regarding the government's intent. Observers will ask why the authorities are suddenly worried trafficking in Pakistan. about how many judges there are in the Supreme Court. Does it have something to do with how the bench ruled in his the reserved seats case?

Some critics will see this as another attempt to pack the court, given how the appointment of ad hoc judges triggered a similar controversy. These are serious questions that the government will not and destination country be able to avoid.

Of course, the Judicial Commission of Pakistan will thoroughly vet all new entrants to ments sustains the mafia the Supreme Court, but perhaps it would be best if new inductees are initially tasked with solely clearing the backlog, instead of being assigned to major cases. This would able. forestall most of the objections that could be raised. Lastly, the judiciary, too, must be invited to give its input on this proposal.

qPHC education and training

Zafar Mirza

Let me first clarify that while the title of this article might give the impression that we are educating and training our medical students about quality Primary Health Care (qPHC), ve are not.

Recently though, some important policy developments have taken place, which are paving the way for sustainable education and training in qPHC that, let us frame the prob-

In my article 'Dubious distinctions', published on these pages on Jan 13, 2023, I provided some startling figures that indicate the depth of the public health crisis in Pakistan. To summarise: 149 countries have a higher life expectancy than us; we have a very high population growth rate; we have the world's second highest neonatal mortality rate; 40 per cent of our children are physically and mentally stunted; 43pc of women have iron deficiency anaemia; we have a high maternal mortality rate; we have failed to eradicate polio (in fact, cases are going

immunised; we have one of the world's highest prevalence rates of Hepatitis C, the fifth highest burden of TB, and the second highest rate of increase in the number of HIV cases in Asia; every fourth woman suffers from perinatal depression; every fourth adult above 20 years suffers from Type II diabetes; every third adult above 45 years has elevated blood

pressure.

The list of tragedies is long and heartbreaking. Why? Because the state and successive governments have not prioritised the health of the people. The irony is that all of the above and many other issues afflicting Pakistan's people — especially the poor living away from the big cities — are preventable and can be effectively managed if detected at an early stage. This happens at the

primary healthcare level in BHUs, RHCs and GPs and not in big hospitals. According to the WHO, up to 90pc of essential healthcare can be provided at the PHC level. Special-

up again); 23.5pc of the cities only treat the failure children are not of PHC at a very high cost, in terms of both money and human suffering.

If this is our context, then we should be prioritising qPHC in our policies, education and training, budgetary allocations, etc. But we don't. Let us take medical and public health education and the training of medical students. Currently, there is a

very high probability that a young doctor, having finished her/his five-year medical education in a medical college and oneyear house job at a tertiarylevel hospital has never set foot in a Basic Health Unit or a Rural Health Centre. To expect this young doctor to play a role in dealing with the above-mentioned public health problems at the PHC level is wrong. It is not her/his fault. We have neither educated her nor trained him in a PHC setting. So, why this expectation? In other words, our medical education is not aligned with our public health problems on ground.

I have mentioned medical students. The same is true for nurses, medical ists in big hospitals in big technologists of various velop the scope and cur-

kinds and other health professionals. None of them are being educated and trained to work at the PHC level.

And now, the good news. The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council, the regulator of medical education and practice in the country, has underscored this problem and has decided to play its role in strengthening qPHC. By following its mandate, the Council has decided to introduce PHC education and training in medical and

dental schools.

third meeting of the PMDC discussed ways to strengthen primary healthcare in Pakistan. The subject was introduced by the current president of the Council, Prof Rizwan Taj. The Council unanimously decided that "following its mandate PMDC will play an active role in strengthening PHC in the country through taking appropriate actions to embed PHC education, training and services in medical and dental colleges. To this effect, PMDC will establish a Family Medicine and PHC expert committee to de-

riculum to be implemented by the medical and dental colleges". On July 1, 2024, a 16-member expert committee was notified.

Another key decision

made by the Council was

to move in the direction of making it mandatory for all the recognised medical and dental colleges to establish/adopt up to five PHC facilities by implementing best practices in their vicinity of 10 kilometres. These PHC centres will be developed as teaching facilities by implementing best prac-On Sept 19, 2023, the tices in PHC in order to deliver integrated preventive, promotive, curative and rehabilitative health services in accordance with the federal and provincial essential packages of

health services" The recognised institutions will also introduce the subject of family medicine and PHC, in accordance with the curriculum developed by the PMDC, and by recruiting appropriate faculty. The PMDC is now preparing to invite volunteer medical and dental colleges to start this programme. These are historical and far-reaching decisions. If effectively

implemented this can quietly transform healthcare in Pakistan in the coming years and decades. Bravo PMDC! Imagine 185 medical and dental colleges in the country, each with five teaching PHC facilities of its own. This can result in 925 teaching PHC facilities. Our future generation of doctors can be potentially educated and trained in qPHC. This will go a very long way.

The nursing council and the Allied Health Professionals Council should also follow PMDC in terms of introducing PHC education and training in their member institutions. The AHPC, for example, has 30 disciplines being taught in its 203 member institutions across the country catering to a wide variety of paramedical education and training. All of them need to be oriented towards PHC. It is a team of health professionals at the PHC level, and not just a doctor, that can provide quality healthcare to the catchment population. I hope this programme is implemented in letter and spirit and, unlike many others, doesn't fall through the cracks. -

Revitalising UETs

Najeeb Ullah

There has long been a debate about why other technology universities globally and Indian institutes of technology (IITs) in the region have excelled while our universities of engineering and technology (ŪETs) across Pakistan have not achieved similar global recognition.

To revitalise UETs, it is crucial to focus on international collaborations. governance structure, academic standards, revamping enterprise wings and HR system/pay packages.

International collaboration: IIT Kanpur, established in 1960, serves as a tion. It was founded with the assistance of a consortium of nine prestigious US universities including MIT, UC Berkeley, California Institute of Technology, Princeton University, and others. Imagine the impact of having such world-class institutions as partners

include the technology transfer offices of the University of Cambridge, Columbia University, Imperial College London, MIT, University of Oxford, Stanford University, UCL, and others. Partnering with TenU could provide invaluable insights and support to enhance our research and commercialisation efforts.

Governance structure: Has anyone questioned the rationale behind the twotier governance structure in our universities, specifically the syndicate and senate? What value does the senate add, given it convenes only once a year, primarily for budget approval?

It's time to scrutinise the composition of the syndicate and compare it with global leaders like Harvard, MIT, or prominent institutions in Pakistan such as Lums. The diversity and expertise of these boards are truly remarkable. Harvard's council, for instance, includes a distinguished array of venture back in 1960. capitalists, investment experts, global academic leadshould collaborate with ers, and corporate finance experts.

In contrast, our synmembers work together to dicates are predominantly increase the societal impact of research. TenU members are predominantly driven by university faculty members. It is impera-

tive to rethink the compo- the commercial wing of in creating industry R&D tion. sition of the syndicate. In- Cambridge University, cluding venture capitalists, financial analysts, publicprivate partnership experts, and global academic leaders would bring a wealth of expertise and a broader perspective, aligning us with global best prac-

Despite the rapid digital transformation, it is striking that our engineering institutions continue to rely on manual management systems. To bridge this gap and align with the digital revolution, all UETs must adopt enterprise resource planning systems, unlocking seamless efficiency, innovation, and progress.

Additionally, the appointment of vice chancellors and other key positions on an ad hoc basis is a serious dilemma that must be addressed to ensure stable and effective leadership

Industry connection: Offices of research, innovation, and commercialisation (ORICs) were intended to be the enterprise arms of universities, driving industry-academia linkage, seed funding, and tech transfer. However in Pakistan they lack the structure and vision to realise their potential. Cambridge Enterprise,

earned nearly Rs3.5 billion in 2022/23. In contrast, positions in ORICs are often filled on an ad hoc basis, lacking expertise in innovation, technology transfer, IP management, and TRL frameworks, resulting in unclear direction. To address this, UETs should establish three specialised wings within ORICs: 1) consultancy, 2) public-private partnerships (PPP) and seed funds, and 3) technology and knowledge

Through consultancy wings, engineers should be encouraged to apply for consultancy projects. New horizons and investments should be explored via establishing PPP wings. This approach will create a winwin situation amidst the current financial crisis in universities.

transfer

To foster innovation UETs should establish innovation hubs via the PPP wing, such as technology and science parks equipped with prototyping labs. The Higher Education Commisestablishment of the 'Institute of Manufacturing', as approved by the Planning Commission. This will help

wings at universities, device fabrication units, and thus fostering indigenous manu-

facturing. Internships offered during undergraduate programmes can play a vital role in bridging industry and academia by studying and resolving industry issues through case studies. Shockingly, students often receive certificates without attending or visiting these industries. Establishing global partnerships with established leaders in the tech world to develop internship institutes in Pakistan is essential. The stipends currently given to students for internships should be redirected to these enterprises to establish tech training labs for effective internships in Pakistan

By providing them with hands-on training, Pakistan engineers will acquire the necessary skills for both local and global markets, significantly enhancing their demand and employability. This comprehensive approach will not only strengthen indusensure the sustainable growth of UETs as centres of ex--c-ellence in engineering and technology educa- essential.

HR team and pay packages: It is concerning to note that a significant portion of faculty time and effort is consumed by administrative hurdles related to promotions, NOCs, pay packages, travel allowances and legal rights, etc. Faculty members often find themselves shuttling between the vice chancellor's and registrar's office, and the courts, thereby wasting their technical capabilities due to the lack of a proper HR system. A Stanford PhD who could achieve remarkable feats in the tech industry abroad ends up engaging in institutional politics at UETs after a few vears, not by choice, but for survival. UETs should establish an independent corporate HR system to effectively manage their highly skilled engineers and qualified faculty members.

The promotion criteria and pay packages within universities need a comprehensive review. This should include commercialised patents, global linkages, industry project funding, job sion should expedite the try connections but also creation, and the quality of publications Emphasising publication quality beyond the 'W' categorisation is

An unsafe country

Zubeida Mustafa

rights ministry, in the last three years, 63,000 cases of violence against women were reported here. This is a rough estimate as not every case of violence is brought to public notice. In fact, it is just the tip of

the iceberg.
A fuller picture of the state of human security in Pakistan emerges from the Trafficking in Persons Repartment. The 2024 report was released recently. From this document, one learns of the complexity and severity of the problems created by criminal

Fundamentally, trafficking violates a victim's constitutional rights to freedom and to live with dignity in a place of her/ choice.

trafficker's basic motive is monetary gain. In today's age of neo-liberalism, trafficking has emerged as a global crime involving a transnational mafia conducting a multibillion-dollar trade reminiscent of the slave trade of vore. Unfortunately, Paki-

stan as a source, transit occupies a strategic position in this heinous business. Its inability — or is that keeps this sordid trade going. It is a lucrative source of illegal earning for the psychopath. As for the mass majority, poverty, gender inequality and illiteracy are the factors that make them so vulner-

For unexplained reasons, not many voices have been raised against this crime against humanity. The numbers affected should jolt our conscience. According to a modest estimate, nearly 20,000 per-

sons (80 per cent of them adopted new ones, the women) are trafficked in Pakistan every year. TIP reports from 2017 to 2021 had showed figures rising from 12,000 to 32,000. In 2022, when a kidnapped girl was recovered in Lahore and taken to court, the police spoke of 40,500 girls having been abducted in Punjab alone. For me, even one woman trafficked is one too many.

It is difficult to understand why state and society accept with equanimity a social evil with profound implications for a country that claims to be an Islamic entity, and which impacts our economy, moral fibre and national image. The latest TIP Re-

port confirms this trend. It informs us that in the investigating period (2023), the government probed 18,461 cases of which 15,022 were of sex trafficking and 3,439 of forced labour. Of these, only 6,178 were prosecuted, with a measly 10 convictions. The 2023 report had revealed a similar pattern of high numbers being investigated, followed by a drop in the number of prosecutions and a scanty lot being convicted. The punishment meted out is not disclosed. It would not be surprising if no one is imprisoned and a fine of only a few hundred thousand is

How has the government reacted to this annual finger-pointing exercise by Washington? One response was to neutralise the pressure by setting up the National Commission on Human Rights in 2015, which has the mandate to address suo motu cases of human rights violations, create public awareness and conduct research on human rights matters. It also makes recommendations to the government on related issues. Consequently, Pakistan has

amended existing laws and

most important being the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act, 2018.

The same year, the NCHR published the report The Menace of Trafficking/Smuggling: Pakistan's Response to the Problem. Well documented, it focuses on the problem in its local setting. The law and order machinery dealing with trafficking problems has also been restructured, with the FIA being assigned to see to the international aspects of traf-

The creation of the NCHR notwithstanding, the situation vis-à-vis trafficking in Pakistan continues to be horrendous. No one in official circles talks about it. Hence it is left to the TIPReport to expose the

Year after year, TIP reports have reiterated that Pakistan does not meet the minimum standards in several key areas. Inadequacy, inefficiency and shoddiness in investigation is something we are all familiar with. I have experienced it whenever I have had to deal with the police. What leaves one aghast is the charge of the government being hand in glove with the criminals. TIP 2024 states: "For the fifth year, the government did not take adequate action against credible reports of official complicity in trafficking crimes, which also continued to create a culture of impunity and inhibited antitrafficking efforts. In Sindh, local officials continued to perpetrate bonded labour with impunity in brick kilns and on

In Pakistan, money can buy a criminal his acquittal and traffickers are multimillionaires. If they also enjoy the blessings of the powers that be then what do they have to worry about? -- Courtesy Dawn | legs. When their blood

Mosquito attack

Naseem Salahuddin

A distressed colleague called me about what started out as an acute fever, but which progressed, within days, to pain in all the muscles. He was troubled with pain and swelling of almost all the joints of his hands, shoulders, wrists, knees, feet, and back, to the extent that he was unable to get out of bed because of severe, constant pain, "as though somebody pummelled my body with sticks and stones" He took analgesics and plenty of fluid and rested in bed, hoping that the awful symptoms would go away, but they continued, week after week. One month into the episode, he could barely sit

in a chair or hobble to the This bizarre syndrome is caused by the Chikungunya virus (CHIKV), spread by the same mosquito species called Aedes aegypti, which transmits several other viruses. In 2016 in Pakistan, there was an outbreak of chikungunya when many patients presented with fever, rash, and pain in the muscles and joints; most people recovered quickly to their original state of health, while others suffered the pain for several weeks but ultimately recovered. Chikungunya has made a comeback, but since most viral infections appear alike, it is difficult to diagnose or make a prognosis. In the case of my colleague, the disease was exceptionally severe and protracted, requiring heavy doses of analgesics and even steroids to pro-

Dengue hit the news in 2005 when thousands of people of all ages presented with sudden fever and pain in the back and

platelets that dropped below average and then scaled back to pre-infection levels over a week a high burden of mosquior two. Very few progressed to bleeding or ceptionally high birth shock or required intensive care and platelet affected by children born

transfusions. We now know four dengue viruses belonging to subgroups (serotypes) , 2, 3, and 4. Surprising information evolved: if one has had dengue 1 in the past and later gets dengue with a different serotype, the body's immune system goes into overdrive, and the outcome can be severe. Over the years, more people are getting infected with other serotypes and suffer more complications, often requiring hospitalisation and blood or platelet transfusions. In 2015, an unset-

tling problem was re-

ported in Brazil: many

women were delivering babies with small heads (microcephaly). Their blood tests revealed the presence of a virus called Zika'. This was alarming and traced to the mosquito species responsible for carrying dengue and chikungunya viruses. Zika also presents with fever, headache, body pain, a rash, and red eyes. Most people would not be diagnosed without lab tests since it is not clinically distinguishable, and most recover without complications. However, if a pregnant woman gets zika, the newborn is likely to be born with a small head (microencephaly), brain defects, or other malformations, and mosquitoes, but environthe mother suffers complications of pregnancy.

In Pakistan, lab tests have identified a few patients with zika; it is not known to what extent it is prevalent at ubiquity of the Aedes tures. -- Courtesy Dawn

was tested, physicians mosquito, rapid air were amazed to find travel, and global warming, it would be no surprise if zika, too, rears its head. Pakistan, with toes, coupled with an exrate, will be significantly

with congenital defects. While chikungunya, dengue and zika all present with similar symptoms, only blood tests reveal the true nature of the infection. Treatment for all three remains supportive with fluids, temperature control, and rest. If complications ensue, they should be managed by experienced physicians.

Clouds of mosquitoes buzz overhead, but only the bite of a female mosquito is responsible for these infections. The male lives only to procreate. The long-legged, black-and-white striped creature looks for its prey at sundown; its sharp lance pierces the skin to inject virus-laden secretions and sucks up blood. If the victim's blood contains the virus, the mosquito reinjects it into the next victim. The deed accomplished, the female flies to find a clean haven of water, lay eggs that hatch over a week or more, and restart the cycle of life. The hardy eggs can survive dryness, humidity, and extremes of temperature.

As our population carries the burden of numerous other infectious diseases, these viruses add another bane to the health of our hapless citizens. Citizens must protect themselves against mental cleanliness alone can save us from these and many other public health diseases.

Once again, our misgovernance is responsible for the profusion of this time, but given the such nasty flying crea-

Governor Kundi lauds Zardari's contributions to democracy, political harmony

Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim and Kundi in a special message marking the birthday of President Asif Ali Zardari, on Friday lauded his contributions democracy and political

harmony in the country. Faisal Karim Kundi described Asif Ali Zardari as a towering figure in the realm of democratic governance and political reconciliation, noting his significant role after the martyrdom of Benazir

He emphasized that Asif Zardari remains a prominent and challenging figure for those opposed to democracy and Pakistan's stability. According to Governor Faisal Kundi, Zardari's life has been

(APP): characterized by resilience Khyber in the face of difficulties commitment to the stability of democracy and Pakistan

decentralization.

highlighted Zardari's unique role in promoting Pakistan's fostering regional trade, and upholding

Governor Kundi's message underscores Zardari's influential and enduring impact on Pakistan's political



PESHAWAR: Members of Salaried Class Alliance are holding protest demonstration against high taxes on salaried class, at Peshawar press club.

Nisar Khuhro praises Zardari's role in upholding democracy

Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Sindh President Nisar Khuhro stated that Asif Ali Zardari is the first civilian to serve as the country's President for a second term. President Zardari, by implementing the 18th Amendment and transferring his powers to the parliament, ensured the continuity of democracy and upheld the supremacy of the parliamentary constitution in the country. His policy of reconciliation governments in the with the support of the country. Nisar Khuhro PML-N, but İmran Niazi while speaking at the 69th birthday celebration of President Asif Ali Zardari,

organized by the People's Labor Bureau.

(APP): has the solution to end the current political strife in the

country.

The PPP Sindh

President emphasized that the doors of the People's Party are open for reconciliation and dialogue with all political parties.

He also urged Imran Niazi to disassociate himself from the Tiger Force within his party, as there is no place for any private force in politics.

Nisar Khuhro further mentioned that for the has also contributed to the survival of democracy, the functioning of democratic parliament was established

He stated that under the People's Party's rule, there are no political prisoners, but the law will He also noted that take action against those



KARACHI: Pakistani fire fighters struggle to control a fire which broke out in a multi-story building located on Shahrah-e-Faisal in Karachi.

JKLF (Y) calls for peaceful resolution to Kashmir issue

MIRPUR-AJK (APP): The US-based Acting Chairman of the Jammu Front (JKLF) Yasin Malik faction, Raja Muzaffar and Watch USA has called for a constructive approach to resolving the long-standing Kashmir issue In a suggested. The JKLF (Y) recent US travel advisory on Kashmir, stating that their

reaction to the advisory is "unjustified and misguided.""Instead of and Kashmir Liberation debating the issue negatively in the media, India and Pakistan should Director of the Board of take this advisory as a South Asia Democracy reminder that Kashmir remains a contentious issue statement released to leader emphasized that the media here on Friday, Raja aspirations and wishes of Muzaffar responded to the the Kashmiri people must be taken into account and the Indian government's independence.

Mehsud Press Club delegation meets IGFC South: challenges and solutions discussed

(APP): The Mehsud Press Club delegation, headed by President Farooq Mahsud, met with Major General Haroon Hameed Chaudhry, IG FC South, in Wana to discuss the issues faced by journalists in the

highlighted difficulties encountered by journalists in South Waziristan, Tank, and Dera Ismail Khan, and potential solutions. Major General Hameed acknowledged the vital role beauty, traditions.

SOUTH WAZIRISTAN journalists play in society, ensuring that the community remains informed. He assured that FC South is committed to supporting journalists, allowing them to work without any fear or hindrance in the region. He also stressed the P delegation importance of combating misinformation disinformation, praising the initiatives taken by the Mehsud Press Club in this regard. The IG FC South urged journalists to promote the region's

He praised Asif Ali Zardari for setting a high standard by transferring powers to the provinces instead of concentrating them, showcasing his dedication

Constitution.

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Saad Noor, Secretary Chief Minister Syed Finance Mohsin Ali, and Murad Ali Shah, in his The CM said that the meeting with a delegation President of Pakistan Asif of the Pakistan Association

Minster for Minority Affairs Ramesh Singh Arora.

CM approves Rs16m

grant, vehicles for

association of blind

a concession card for

travelling in PIA and

Railways, which was rescinded when his tenure

was over. He said that the

PPP government of Gilani

had also supported them,

and the support was

Ali Zardari has directed of the Blind, Sindh, approved a grant of Rs16 him to resolve all the issues million and vehicles to pick of the persons with impairment of vision. At & drop the blind children from their homes to school. this, Riaz Memon, president of the Association, said that his implementing the five per delegation had called on him cent quota in government jobs for differently abled [President Zardari]. Mr Riaz said that Asif Ali persons," the CM said in Zardari, during his last his meeting with the association members. tenure as President of Pakistan, had granted them

The meeting was attended by PSCM Agha Wasif and Secretary DEPD Tauha Farooqi. The delegation comprised Association President Riaz Memon, Senior Vice President Ghulam Dastagir, General Secretary

Fed Insurance **Ombudsman** meets CM Murad

KARACHI Insurance Ombudsman Mumtaz Shah called on Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah and apprised him about the performance of his institutions here at the CM

Mumtaz Shah told the CM that the Federal Insurance Ombudsman has headquarters in Karachi and regional offices in Hyderabad, Lahore, Multan, slamabad. Peshawar, and

Ombudsman resolves the complaints of insurance policyholders by giving hearings to both parties, Mumtaz Shah said and added that the Ombudsman provided relief to policyholders.

The Ombudsman provided transparent, fair, and speedy justice by resolving disputes in 60 days. "We provided relief of Rs 5 billion last year by passing orders in almost 5000 complaints against the companies," Mumtaz said.

Two died as a mud house collapsed

RAWALPINDI (APP): Two people have died as a mud house collapsed late last night on Thursday in the Misrial Road area. A family was sleeping when the mud roof of the house collapsed, resulting in two people buried under debris.

According to emergency service, Rescue 1122 teams recovered two bodies which were shifted to the hospital after necessary action. The deceased were identified as Sajid 27, and his 7 years old daughter Malaika.

The locals informed that the house was an oldfashioned construction in which mud was used. The single-story building's roof was too weak to hold any extra weight, they said.

The neighbouring people further pointed out that the incident could be the result of heavy rain during which the roof collapsed.

Man killed in a brawl

SARGODHA (APP): A man was killed by his native villagers on some domestic issues here at chak No.26 SB under the jurisdiction of Bhagtanwala police station, here on

P o l i c e spokesperson said that Arshad(44) and Ahsaan(32) had a brawl with their native villager namely as Naseer(34)on some domestic matters. On the day of

incident they killed Naseer

after opening fire at him.

Aziz, a prominent industrialist of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and head of Aziz Jan Welfare Trust, and Shafiq Miadad, Trustee Member Saylani Trust Faisalabad city. Shafiq Miandad distributed

Saylani Welfare Trust, a

charity organization

helping needy people in

different parts of the

country, has opened its

new branch on Friday for

distribution of free meal

among needy people in

provincial metropolis,

new office of Saylani was

jointly performed by Afan

The inauguration of

Peshawar.

Both Afan Aziz and lunch among hundreds of need people gathered outside the new office of Saylani at Saddar area of Peshawar. Speaking on the youth.

occasion, Afan Aziz said Saylani Welfare Trust is doing a remarkable service by providing free meal to thousands of people in the country at two times on daily basis.

Punjab Minister for Transport Bilal Akbar Khan.

Saylani Trust opens new

branch in Peshawar for

free meal distribution

(APP):

Apart from free meal, the charity organization is also providing free Information Technology (IT) training to thousands of students in different cities of the country.

The approach of imparting educational, especially IT, learning to country's youth is a ray of hope for overcoming the crisis being faced by our country, Afan expressed the hope. He urged people those who can afford to forward and contribute in this noble cause of providing free education to country's

CM takes in Kurram district

Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Ali Amin Gandapur has taken notice of clashes between rival parties over a property dispute in Kurram District. The Chief Minister

this, the CM assured the association that he would end the clashes and ensure talk to the NADRA peace in the area. He has authorities to resolve their also appealed to the parties issue. The association to resolve their disputes members requested the CM through jirga according to tribal traditions."No one approve an annual grant for will be allowed to take the their association. At this, the CM approved the law into their hands and Rs16 million annual grant disrupt peace in the area." and directed the DEPD said the Chief Minister. He Secretary to send him a summary for formal emphasized that resolving disputes through mutual

The association members told the CM that their two centres – Larkana and Karachi - needed transport facilities for pick

approval.

discontinued when the

government was changed.

Blind persons should be

The CM was told that

notice of clashes

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief

issued a CNIC reflecting their vision impairment. At has directed the district administration and police to take immediate steps to consultation and peaceful means is in the interest of all parties and the entire area. The Chief Minister has expressed regret over the loss of precious human lives in the clashes.



Dr Kalyan Singh says: Collective efforts vital to strengthen Pakistan

LAHORE: Speaker Punjab Assembly Malik Ahmed in a group photo with delegation led by Punjab

Pakistani Sikh PhD scholar Professor Dr Kalyan Singh Kalyan said on Friday that it was necessary for all Pakistanis to play their due role in the development and prosperity of the country.

While talking to APP here he said, "Pakistan is my pride and I am happy that I am a Pakistani Sikh."

He further said, "I am Pakistani by choice as in 1947, the majority of Sikh families migrated to India, but our ancestors stayed

He said that Government College University is a historical and great educational institution, where famous people of the Sikh community studied,

AHORE (APP): The first including Prof. Sahib Singh, Mir Singh and

Sardar Dr. Kalyan Singh said that he had developed a booklet which made the Punjabi Gurmukhi script easy for students to read and learn. This manual was used

all educational institutions where Punjabi

is taught, he added. Sardar Kalyan Singh Kalyan is the first Sikh professor in Pakistan who is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Punjabi at Government College University Lahore. Sardar Dr Kalyan Singh is also an author and researcher of several books while his research on Punjabi script is part of the syllabus.

Couple killed as bus hits a motorbike in Chichawatni

speeding bus crushed a man and his wife to death when they were on their way to

ISLAMABAD (APP): A

market by a motorbike at Kassowal by pass road in Chichawatni on Friday afternoon. According to details, Police sources informed that the bus was traveling when it lost control and hit a motorcycle coming from opposite side, in a result a couple on bike died on the spot, a private news channel reported. A police official said according to some passengers, the bus driver lost control on the vehicle which led to the incident. The police took the driver into custody and shifted bodies to hospital for further morgue for autopsy.



motorcycles RAWALPINDI (APP): Police have arrested two bike lifters and street criminals and recovered five stolen motorcycles and other items from their possession, said a Police spokesman here on

He informed that a team under the supervision of SHO, R.A.Bazar Police Station managed to net two bike lifters namely Mobeen and Moazam and recovered five stolen motorcycles and other items from their possession.

A case has been registered against the accused while further investigation is underway. Superintendent of Police, Potohar, Nasir

Nawaz accomplices facilitators of the accused would also be sent behind

Rana announces ambitious matric, Inter-tech courses program for 300 schools

In a major boost to the rovincial Minister for Education Rana Sikandar Hayat Friday unveiled a groundbreaking initiative, announcing the launch of an ambitious Matric, Interproject revolutionize the learning experience for students in 300 public schools across the province which will enable them hands-on experience and skillbuilding in their chosen

Talking to a Private news channel, he said the Matric, Inter-Tech project aims to address the longstanding issue of students graduating with theoretical knowledge but lacking the practical skills demanded by employers.

To achieve this, the

ISLAMABAD (APP): hands-on training, ensuring students are job-ready upon graduation, he

"Responding to a question, Provincial Minister for Education clarified that the government does not plan to build new school buildings for the Matric, Inter-Tech project, adding, instead, the existing infrastructure will be optimized by merging 600 to 700 school buildings, creating larger, more resourceful campuses.

He said that by incorporating cutting-edge subjects into the curriculum, the government aims to equip students with the skills required to thrive in the modern workforce.

The merged schools will also provide students courses will be carefully with access to advanced crafted to integrate tools, software, and theoretical concepts with equipment.



SUKKUR: Sindh Energy Minister, Syed Nasir Hussain Shah is giving the allotment letter of the house constructed by the government to the flood

Apex committee approved demands keeping in view aspirations of people: CM

Amin Khan Gandapur on Friday said that all the demands presented by Bannu Aman Committee (BAC) have been approved by Provincial Apex Commit-

He was addressing a public gathering in district Bannu. He said that Apex Committee in its meeting thoroughly discussed each and every point of the peace committee and accepted all the demands as per aspirations of the MPA Adnan Wazir and

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief thanked the people and their leaders for cooperating with administration in handling the situation arising out of tragic incident in Bannu. He said that the children studying in seminaries are dear to us and steps would be taken for their well being. CM said that we

would not accept any armed group and directed against armed people. Provincial Minister Pakhtunyar,

people.

The Chief Minister the public gathering.

Punjab government working for welfare of minorities: Arora

Provincial Minister for Minority Affairs Ramesh Singh Arora on Friday met with Speaker of the Punjab Assembly, Malik Ahmad

They discussed various programs to be held in connection with International Day of Religious Minorities on August 11. Both leaders emphasized that protecting the rights and welfare of religious minorities is a top priority of the government. Minister Ramesh Singh Arora mentioned that on minority communities with minority communities

Punjab Assembly Speaker Malik Ahmad Khan stated that the Punjab government is taking all possible measures to protect the rights of religious minorities, and the programs to be held on August 11 will be a practical demonstration of this commitment. The meeting also included detailed discussions on organizing various educational, and social programs, determination to ensure their success. Ramesh Singh Arora August 11, various events stressed that the Punjab and programs would be government is working in full organized to empower cooperation and harmony

Harassment of women not to be tolerated: Hina

LAHORE (APP): Punjab of women standing up Protection Authority Chairperson Hina Parvez Butt said on Friday that harassment of women at workplaces and homes would not be

Speaking at a seminar organized by the National Commission of Women at a local hotel, here she urged women to report any injustice they face, assuring them of immediate action and full cooperation from the Punjab Police. While representing

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, Hina emphasized the importance

against domestic violence. She encouraged those suffering in silence to muster up courage to come forward. "Women resorting to suicide is the extreme consequence of the grave issue of blackmailing and harassment they face," she said. Hina Parvez Butt highlighted the disparity between ordinary women and women in politics, questioning common women receive the same respect as their political counterparts. In her first ten days as Chairperson of the Women Protection Authority.



KARACHI: Activists of Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) are holding protest demonstration for release of PTI Founder Imran Khan, at Karachi press club.

approval for disconnection

of Gas supply to the Pakistan Steel Mills on 30th June, 2024 in order to

prevent the national

exchequer with the

approximately Rs 2.5

billion. On the request of the Federal Minister for

Industries & Production

the Committee decided to

hold the separate meeting on the Pakistan Steel Mill

(PSM) in-depth briefing of the committee.

Meanwhile, the MD,
Utility Store Corporation

(USC) apprised the committee about the

functions, performance and

Store Corporation was established in 1971 under the Companies Act, 2017.

Australian HC

calls on Minister

of State for IT

ISLAMABAD (Online):

Commissioner to Pakistan

Mr. Neil Hawkins called

on Minister of State for IT

and Telecommunication

Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja

Telecommunication,

digitalization, fiberization,

and cybersecurity were

IT Shaza Fatima said that

the present government is

focused upon digitalization in the country, adding that digitalization of the

economy is our topmost

priority. Governance and

society are also being

digitalised under National

going on National Fiberization Policy, as

robust fiberization is

utmost necessary for 5G

technology in the country.

Ministry of IT & Telecom

is committed for ending

Rupee gains

07 paisa

against dollar

digital gender divide.

Shaza Fatima said

She said that work is

Digitalization Plan.

Minister of State for

discussed in the meeting.

Matters of bilateral

in her office on Friday.

Australian

interest.

He stated that Utility

problems faced management of USC.

additional cost

Commerce minister highlights significant contributions of ECO

ISLAMABAD (APP): the ongoing reforms aimed acknowledged Pakistan's Federal Minister for at enhancing the pivotal role in the Commerce Jam Kamal organization's regional and organization, both in trade Commerce Jam Kamal Friday underscored Pakistan's commitment to the ECO, highlighting its significant contributions to the organization's initiatives.

In a pivotal meeting held in Islamabad, ECO Secretary General Ambassador Khusrav Noziri met with Pakistani Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan to discuss regional trade dynamics and the future direction of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), said a press release issued here.

During the meeting, Minister Jam Kamal Khan lauded Ambassador Noziri for his exceptional service to the ECO and expressed confidence that his successor, Ambassador Asad Majeed Khan, would continue to advance the organization's activities.

Noziri provided an overview of ECO's recent activities and emphasized

global influence.

expressed optimism that these ECO. reforms would continue under the new Secretary General, strengthening the organization's impact.

discussion focused on strategies to boost intra-regional trade and enhance connectivity among member states.

Vision 2025, which was adopted during the 13th ECO Summit in Islamabad in 2017

Minister Khan highlighted Pakistan's visa- stressed the importance of free policy for 126 countries as a model to enhance trade cooperation globally and suggested a similar ECO Visa policy to facilitate trade among member states.

effective decision-making and policy formulation.

and political spheres, being a founding member of the

Khan emphasized the need for concrete and resultsoriented policies to sustainable promote

commitment to enhancing intra-regional trade.

expressed gratitude for Pakistan's hospitality and continued collaboration among member states. Ňaziri

appreciated Pakistan role in eco and initiatives undertaken by Pakistan.

Output description of the suggested process of the suggested expanding the ECO by the suggested of the suggested expanding the ECO by ECO meetings were also addressed to ensure Armenia to strengthen ties between Central Asia and South Asia, with Pakistan Ambassador Noziri taking a leading role.

Gold rates up

by Rs.1,000

per tola to

Rs.251,500

SLAMABAD (APP):

The price of per tola of 24

ks.1,000 and was sold at

Rs. 251,500 on Friday

against its sale at Rs.

250,500 on last trading

of 24 karat gold also increased by Rs. 858 to

Rs. 215,621 from Rs.

214,763 whereas that of 10

gram 22 karat gold up to

Rs.196,866, the All Sindh

and ten gram silver

remained unchanged at

Rs.2,860 and Rs.2,451.98

the international market

increased by \$3 to \$2,473 from \$2,470, the

Shipping

activity at

Port Qasim

KARACHI (APP): Six

Ships, Maersk Cairo, ONE

Modern, MSC Positano,

Seaspan Ganges, Silver

Valerie and Bolan carrying

Container, Palm oil and

Mogas, berthed at Qasim

International Container

Terminal, Liquid Cargo

Terminals and FOTCO oil

Terminal respectively on

scheduled to load/offload

Condensed is also arrived

at outer-anchorage of the

Port Qasim on same day.

were engaged at PQA

berths during the last 24

hours, out of them three

ships, Maersk Cairo, ONE

Modern and Fisher left the

port on today morning

while two more ships,

Seaspan Ganges and Bolan

are expected to sail on

comprising 95,995 tonnes

imports cargo and 56,468

tonnes export cargo carried

in 5,541 Containers (3,130

TEUs Imports & 2,411

TEUs Export) was handled

at the port during last 24

hours. There are 05 ships at

Outer Anchorage of Port

Qasim, out of them a 'Sky

Dweller' & another ship

'Southern Anoa' carrying

Mogas and Chemicals are

expected to take berths at

FÔTCO and EVTL

respectively on Friday,

Meanwhile two more

container ships.

Cargo volume of

tonnes,

today afternoon.

A total of eleven ships

Meanwhile another

'Sea Luck-III'

Thursday.

Association reported.

The price of per tola

The price of gold in

Jewellers

197,652

Association reported.

The price of 10 grams

day.

Sarafa

respectively.



KARACHI: Members of All Saddar Alliance of Market and Mall Association are holding protest demonstration against economic crisis, at Saddar area

Over Rs. 84 bln disbursed among beneficiaries under Benazir Kafaalat scheme

ISLAMABAD (APP): families. The Benazir Income (BISP) has disbursed over through the nearest centers Rs.84 billion among over 80,00,000 beneficiaries from from across the country so far under the Benazir

Kafaalat quarterly payments (April-June). "Till July 25, over Rs. 84 billion has been disbursed among over 80,00,000 beneficiaries which make 81 per cent of the total beneficiaries", said an official source.

The disbursement of the quarterly tranche (April-June) of Benazir Kafaalat cash assistance to the beneficiaries is WhatsApp numbers continued across the including 03018472841 country to disburse Rs. 10,500 per household among over nine million Division), 03175370095 registered beneficiary

The beneficiaries can karat gold increased by after receiving the message beneficiaries, in case of any complaint, can approach the nearest BISP Tehsil offices or call the toll-free

Income Support Program. The special control room has been activated in the BISP headquarters to address the complaints of the beneficiaries promptly.

helpline number 080026477 of the Benazir

However, beneficiaries can also contact the officials on (Hyderabad District), 03018472838 (Karachi



MULTAN: Additional Chief Secretary South Puniab Fawad Hashim Rabbani cutting the ribbon to inaugurate the mango festival at Nawaz Sharif Agricultural University.

FAO, PCCC research collaboration to enhance cotton production: Yusuf

MULTAN (APP): The accompanied by Mudassin collaboration and partnership between United Nation's (UN) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Pakistan Central Committee will instrumental in aligning production technology with international standards to advance and promote cotton production in the

This was stated by Dr. Yusuf Zafar (Tamghae-Imtiaz), Vice President of PCCC's local knowledge PCCC, in a meeting with a three-member delegation led by Ms. Emilda Berjina, Senior Technical Advisor (Punjab) / FAO Project Manager on Friday at the PCCC headquarters here. She was

Hayat and Mudassin Maqsood from FAO.

Yusuf Zafar hoped the mutual cooperation and partnership would turn out to be fruitful on way to be achieving goals of enhanced cotton production and take white gold quality to new highs.

partnership, both organizations shall work on modern research projects with anticipation that FAO's global expertise and will combine to align the cotton production technology international standards. It

will help strengthen the cotton industry in Pakistan and introduce farmers to advanced techniques

Minister Jam Kamal

development in the region. He assured the Secretary General full support for the ECO Both sides reviewed reform agenda and the progress of ECO- reaffirmed Pakistan's

Ambassador Noziri



LAUNCH CEREMONY

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Industries and Production Rana Tanveer

NA body told

Land of PSM to be used

for establishment of SEZs

Facilitation Council

(SIFC) decided to declare

the PSM as scrap as it was

nearly impossible to revive the PSM with existing infrastructure and

out-dated technology

however, they further

decided that the 19,000 acres land of PSM would be utilized for

establishment of SEZs.

He further said that two SEZs of 500 and 700

acres of land was established respectively

and on the request of Chief Minister, Sindh the 700

acres additional land was

allocated to the provincial

government for the re-

establishment of state of

art steel mill with modern

He also stated that

technology

infrastructure.

Hussain launched PCI - POWERCHINA SEZ Policy Report.

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's leading digital microfinance bank, Mobilink Bank, has brought on board AutoSoft Dynamics, a renowned global provider of core banking and financial application solutions, as a strategic partner to

ISLAMABAD (APP):

National Assembly Standing Committee on Industries & Production on

Friday was informed 19,000 acres of the land of

Pakistan Still Mills (PSM)

would be utilized for the

establishment of Special Economic Zone (SEZs) for

the industrial development

The committee met here under the chairmanship of Syed Hafeez ud Din, which was briefed by the Federal Secretary Ministry of

Industries about working

and performance of the

ministry and its attached

departments, said a press

the PSM, the Secretary

said that in the meetings

While briefing about

in the country.

financial services. Adil Ali Abbasi, Chief Financial Officer Mobilink Bank and Bilal Mahmood, M.D. Contour Software & CEO AutoSoft Dynamics formalized the partnership in Islamabad. The signing ceremony was attended by representatives from both automate their treasury organizations.



operations Under

partnership, AutoSoft will facilitate Mobilink Bank's seamless integration with the State Bank of Pakistan's (SBP) PRISM solution through its Real-Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) system. This integration ensures secure and instantaneous fund transfers, aligning with the Bank's commitment to providing

Sharing his thoughts at the signing ceremony, Faisal Mahmood, Chief Officer. Information Mobilink Bank, said, "We at Mobilink Bank are continuously working on improving our customer's experience. Partnering with industry leaders like AutoSoft Dynamics allows us to utilize cutting-edge technology and create a more agile and efficient premium banking system.

No proper assessment made in PPA's with **IPPs: President PBF**

President Pakistan Business Forum (PBF), Khawaja Mehboob ur Rehman has said that no proper consideration of the potential consequences was made in the power purchase agreements (PPAs) with Independent Electricity Producers (IPPs) creating economic problems for both the countrymen and industry.

Addressing business community in South Punjab, the PBF President highlighted the absence of unbiased consultant services and the necessary professional or technical knowledge to effectively handle the substantial number of IPPs. These contracts mandate the procurement

of power from the IPPs. If you look into Chinese IPP only, the payables touching almost \$2 billion dollars and the government is contemplating finalizing a schedule of payments to Chinese Independent Power Producers.

Khawaja Mehboob ur Rehman said that we must understand, "Pakistan cannot afford to make the same mistakes every few years just because a new group of investors wants to get paid for doing nothing. Our country is blessed with all resources. All we need for prosperity is for the mismanagement to end"

The PBF demanded that the federal government to initiate forensic audits of these IPPS, including



FAISALABAD: Labourers busy in plucking dates at his Farm.

Govt taking steps to facilitate business community: Tanveer

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for industries and production Rana Tanveer Hussain on Friday said that the government is taking steps to facilitate the business community and common man.

The minister said while talking to a delegation of Federation of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) led by its to go President Atif Ikram industrialization. Sheikh. He said that the government is setting up special economic zones for investment whereas he stressed that economic development could be achieved only by

increasing exports.

The government is trying to solve the problems faced by the industry, he added.

President FPCCI said that energy prices will have to be brought at par with regional countries. In order to get rid of

International Monetary Pakistan Chamber of Fund (IMF) and increase domestic exports, we have If the government

provides relief in the electricity tariff, the business community can achieve the export target of 60 billion dollars, said Atif Ikram Sheikh.



ISLAMABAD: Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan Mr.Neil Hawkins called on Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja.

Kashif Anwar urges govt to support businesses by reducing electricity prices

(APP): Development Sobia Aqeel President Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) Kashif Anwar has said that the economic conditions are challenging and the government needs to support the business sector by reducing electricity prices and simplifying the tax system. This would enable the business community to play a significant role in the country's economic recovery and increase the exports.

He expressed these views while addressing a delegation from the Faisalabad Women Chamber, led by its President Rubina Amjad.

FPCCI Vice President Qurat-ul-Ain, former President and Chairperson

Governor Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Faisal Karim Kundi visited the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) headquarters and met with Chairman FBR Malik Amjed Zubair Tiwana and discussed various tax-related matters FBR's dedication to people of the province.

assured the Governor that all possible measures would be taken to resolve the issues faced by taxpayers in KP, said a news release here on

ISLAMABAD (APP) Pakistani rupee on Friday appreciated by 07 paisa against the US dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs 278.33 against the previous day's closing of Rs 278.40. However, according

to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of the dollar in the open market stood at Rs 278.50 and Rs 280.15 respectively.

The price of Euro went up by 04 paisa to close at Rs 302.05 against the last day's closing of Rs 302.01, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP). The Japanese yen lost 02 paisa and closed at Rs1.80, whereas a decrease of 86 paisa was witnessed in the exchange rate of the British Pound, which traded at Rs358.20 as compared to the last day's closing of Rs359.06.

SBP to announce monetary policy on July 29

ISLAMABAD (APP): The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) will announce Monetary Policy on July 29 in a meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC). The MPC will meet on Monday, July 29 to decide about the Monetary Policy, a press release issued by SBP said. Governor SBP Jameel Ahmad will announce the Monetary Policy decision at a press conference on the same day after the MPC meeting, it added.

former senior vice president Shahida Iqbal and others were present. The LCCI president said that the government must take special measures

for women entrepreneurs and LCCI was already doing a lot in this regard. Kashif Anwar said that LCCI, as the premier chamber of commerce in the country, was actively empowering women and promoting development in every field. There were approximately

2,000 women members of the LCCI and their number increasing was significantly every year, he added.

President Faisalabad Women Chamber Rubina Amjad, emphasised that to of the Standing Committee improve the country's on Trade and Export economic situation.

FBR committed to resolve taxpayer issues in KP, Chairman FBR assures Governor KP

(APP): Khyber ISLAMABAD

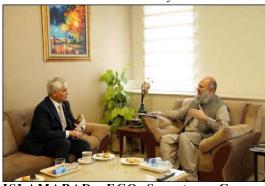
The Chairman FBR Friday.

The Chairman FBR tax system.

also apprised about the ongoing tax reforms being implemented by the FBR including digitisation and automation of its systems to enhance efficiency transparency accountability

He reiterated the and issues faced by the creating a conducive environment for taxpayers through continuous reforms and improvements in the tax system.

> Governor Karim Kundi expressed his appreciation for the efforts being made by the FBR to modernize and improve the



ISLAMABAD: ECO Secretary General Ambassador Khusrav Noziri calls on Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan to discuss regional trade dynamics and the future direction of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO).

Financial digitalization can help document economy: Jazz CEO

ISLAMABAD (APP): journalists he outlined a CEO Jazz, Chairman comprehensive strategy to Mobilink Microfinance accelerate Pakistan's shift Bank; and Chairman Telecom Operators' Association of Pakistan Aamir Ibrahim said Pakistan could document its economy by switching financial over to digitalization.

"By moving towards a digital economy, the county can foster financial inclusion, improve tax compliance documenting the economy, and create countless economic opportunities for millions of Pakistanis," he expressed these views while talking to media. While talking to

towards a cashless society, underscoring the critical importance of prioritizing digital and financial inclusion as national imperatives. He proposed several key policy interventions to drive the adoption of digital financial services included ensuring universal access by integrating smartphones, SIM cards, and digital wallets or bank accounts (with already established services) into the national identity card issuance process., potentially funded through the Universal Service Fund.

tense over Israel's conduct

three times during his presi-

dency, once in September

last year in New York, and

then when Biden travelled

to Israel after the attacks

and hugged Netanyahu on

the airport tarmac at Tel

after Netanyahu vowed

"total victory" against

Hamas in a fiery speech

Wednesday to the US Con-

gress. The White House

was surrounded by metal

barriers and a heavy police

presence, after rowdy pro-

tests broke out near the

Netanyahu's speech. Har-

ris on Thursday con-

demned the "despicable"

and "unpatriotic" burning

of an American flag by pro-

testers, after attempts by

Donald Trump's Republi-

Harris said that what

has happened in Gaza over

Capitol

Relations between cans to paint Democrats as

US vice president says

she 'will not be silent' in

face of Gaza suffering

The meetings come

They have met just

in their campaign.

Netanyahu, Biden

meet for tense

ceasefire talks

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: Israeli

Prime Minister Benjamin

Netanyahu said on Thurs-

day he was ready to work

with Joe Biden for the rest

of his presidency, as the two leaders met for the first

time at the White House for

"I want to thank you for the 50 years of public service and 50 years of sup-port for the state of Israel,"

Netanyahu said after they

shook hands in the historic

setting of the Oval Office. "And I look forward

to discussing with you to-

day and working with you in the months ahead." Biden stunned the world on Sun-

day when he announced

that he was bowing out of

the US presidential elec-

tion, with Vice President

Kamala Harris now set to

Biden and Netanyahu are pro-Hamas.

be the Democratic Party's

Monitoring Desk

WASHINGTON: US Vice

President Kamala Harris

Netanyahu.

talks on a Gaza ceasefire.

Trump discusses US wiping Iran 'off the face of the Earth'

Monitoring Desk publican presidential nominee Donald Trump on Thursday invoked the annihilation of US adversary Iran in a social media post reminiscent of his most incen- creased security for attendee, they said.

Iran, wipes it off the face of the Earth — If that does not happen, American Leaders will be considered 'gutless' cowards!" he wrote on his social media platform, Truth Social.

Trump made the remarks alongside a brief boosted for Trump. former Trump adminis-

Netanyahu bringing up address to the US Congress on Wednesday.

US media reported last week that the US Secret Service had indiary outbursts while in the White House.

Trump weeks ago after authorities learned of the White House.

"If they do 'assas"If they do 'assas-President him, although it was not

US authorities received intelligence from a "human source" on a plan by Tehran targeting the

But it was not conalleged Iranian plots nected to the campaign against Trump in his shooting in Butler, Pennsylvania, in which gunman Thomas Mat-thew Crooks opened fire, lightly wounding Trump and killing a rally

Relations between Washington and Iran strained and reached a Trump,' which is always linked to the recent at- breaking point as a possibility, I hope tempt on his life in Tehran sought revenge that America obliterates which a 20-year-old for the 2020 killing of American fired shots during a campaign rally. CNN reported that Soleimani, ordered by Trump when he was president.

The US National Security Council said it former president, caus- had been "tracking Iraing protection to be nian threats against

EU sends first

\$1.6 billion

from frozen

Russia assets

to Ukraine

Monitoring Desk

pean Union announced Fri-

day it had made 1.5 billion

euros (\$1.6 billion) avail-

able to support Ukraine, the

first tranche of money gen-

erated from profits on fro-

member states reached an

agreement to use the interest

earned on some 210 billion

euros (\$225 billion) in Rus-

sian central bank assets for

military support for Ukraine

and rebuilding efforts in the

war torn country. The money, most of which is held

in Belgium, was frozen as

part of sanctions packages in

In May, the EU's 27

THE HAGUE: The Euro-



Trump speaks during a campaign rally at the Bojangles Coliseum in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Humanity suffering from heat epidemic: **UN** chief

Monitoring Desk UNITED NATIONS: Humanity is suffering from an "extreme heat epidemic," UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres warned on Thursday, calling for action to limit the impacts of heat waves intensified by cli-

mate change. Billions of people are facing an extreme heat epidemic — wilting under increasingly deadly heat waves, with temperatures topping 50 degrees Celsius around the world," he said. 'That's 122 degrees Fahrenheit. And half-way to

According to the European Copernicus net-work, July 21, 22 and 23 were the three hottest days ever recorded worldwide, with July 22 holding the absolute record of 17.16°C. Guterres repeated his call for humanity to fight its "addiction" to fossil fuels.

'Today, our focus is on the impact of extreme heat. But let's not forget that there are many other devastating symptoms of the climate crisis: evermore fierce hurricanes. Floods. Droughts. Wildfires. Rising sea levels. And the list goes on," he said.

UN calls for probe into crackdown in Bangladesh

Monitoring Desk GENEVA: The UN rights chief called on Thursday on Bangladesh to urgently disclose the details of last week's crackdown on protests amid accounts of "horrific violence", calling for "an impartial, independent and transparent investigation".

We understand that many people were subjected to violent attacks by groups reportedly affiliated with the Government, and no effort was made to protect them," Volker Turk said in a statement.

Last week's violence including several police of halt to new demonstrations.

ficers, according to the source count of victims reported by police and hospitals, in one of the biggest upheavals of Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's 15-year tenure. The unrest was sparked by protests against a public iobs quota scheme that critics say gives preference to allies of Hasina's ruling

Thousands of troops are still patrolling cities and a nationwide internet shutdown remains largely in effect, but clashes have subsided since protest leaders killed at least 193 people announced a temporary

US, Brazil to on climate partnership, says Yellen

Speaking on the sideand on nature.

Fireworks in Sofia

Interior Minister Kalin Stoyanov said two or three technics depots at the time

Television images showed a long series of fireworks explosions and clouds of grey smoke rising more than two hours after the initial blast at Elin Pelin,

work together

Monitoring Desk RIO DE JANEIRO: The US and Brazilian governments announced a climate partnership agenda on Friday, seeking to deepen ties on an issue they seen as key but treated as secondary by opposition in both countries.

lines of a G20 finance leaders meeting in Rio de Janeiro, US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said that "advancing work on climate

factory blasts set off alert

SOFIA (INP): Fire triggered a series of explosions at a fireworks factory that set off a major alert in the Sofia

region on Thursday.
An interior ministry official told BNT public television that two people had been injured in the explosions at Elin Pelin on the outskirts of the Bulgarian

more workers were reported to have been in the pyroof the blasts.

iust outside Sofia

said on Thursday that she the past nine months was "devastating". expressed concern about 'The images of dead the situation in the Gaza children and desperate, Strip to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu hungry people fleeing for during their meeting at the safety, sometimes displaced White House. for the second, third, or "I made clear my serifourth time. ous concern about the dire 'We cannot look away humanitarian situation in the face of these tragthere, with over 2 million edies. We cannot allow ourpeople facing high levels of selves to become numb to food insecurity and half a the suffering. And I will not silent," she added. million people facing cata-

Earlier, Netanyahu strophic levels of acute food insecurity," Harris told remet with US President Joe porters after the closed-Biden, who ended his presidential re-election campaign door meeting on Sunday and endorsed The meeting came a Harris to replace him as the day after Netanyahu ad-Democratic presidential dressed a joint session of candidate. the US Congress, where he With her remarks, Har-

ris reflected a major shift in Gaza policy, while urging Netanyahu to reach a non-combatant casualties in ceasefire in the besieged the history of urban war- enclave.

France's high-speed railway hit by 'sabotage' during Olympics

Monitoring Desk PARIS: France's highspeed rail network was hit by "malicious acts" including arson attacks that have disrupted the transport system, train operator SNCF said on Friday, hours before the opening ceremony of the Paris Olym-

claimed that the conflict in

Gaza has "one of the low-

est ratios of combatants to

A source close to the investigation told AFP that the attacks were coordinated acts of "sabotage".

"This is a massive attack on a large scale to paralyse the TGV network," SNCF told AFP, adding that many routes will have to be

cancelled. "SNCF was the victim of several simultaneous malicious acts overnight," the national train operator

said, adding that the attacks affected its Atlantic, northern and eastern lines. 'Arson attacks were

started to damage our facili-

ties," it said, adding that traffic on the affected lines was "heavily disrupted' and the situation would last through the weekend as repairs are conducted. Trains were being diverted to different tracks

'but we will have to cancel a large number of them", the statement said. The southeastern line was not affected as "a malicious act was foiled". SNCF urged passen-

gers to postpone their trips and stay away from train

French Prime Minister Gabriel Attal said that security forces are hunting the suspects behind the arson attacks that hobbled the country's high-speed rail network

"Our intelligence services and law enforcement are mobilised to find and punish the perpetrators of these criminal acts."

Uganda police arrest more people protesting corruption

in the capital Kampala on Thursday during a second day of anti-corruption protests that are demanding the resignation of the parliament speaker, footage broadcast by local media showed.

protests in neighbouring posed tax hikes, young Ugandans began demonstrating this week against

shut down a planned march to parliament on Tuesday. They arrested at least 73 young protesters, according to Chapter Four Uganda, an organisation providing legal services to

On Thursday, more demonstrators took to the streets, according to video posted on X by the Daily

The footage showed police in riot gear forcing several young adults into the back of a truck as they

shouted protest slogans.
Footage broadcast by NTV Uganda showed about a dozen people marching with signs that said, "The Corrupt are Messing with a Wrong Generation" and 'This is our 1986", a reference to when President Yoweri Museveni over-

threw a repressive govern-Reached for comment. police spokesperson Kituuma Rusoke referred Reuters to comments on Monday in which he said protests had been banned because they would be hijacked by people looking to loot and vandalise.

Museveni, who over the weekend warned protesters against "playing with fire", accused them on Thursday of receiving foreign funding.

involved "Those should know that Uganda is not a neo-colony," he said. "The fight against corruption is in my hands. I just need evidence and action will be taken.

Ugandan and Kenyan activists have used audio forums on X as the main platform for organising



WASHINGTON: Pro-Palestinian demonstrators carrying an effigy of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu protest in front of the White House to protest US President Joe Biden's meeting with Netanyahu.

Kamala Harris gains ground in US polls as Trump tries to brand her a Marxist

US rejects plan for G20

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: Vice President Kamala Harris took her presidential campaign blitz to the largest US teachers' union on Thursday, promising a "fight for the gap with Republican ri-say: Bring it on." vai Donaid Trump. Harris swift emergence as the successor to President Joe Biden, 81, as the Democratic presidential candidate in the Nov 5 election has shaken up a stagnant presidential race, with polls showing her narrowing former President

Trump's advantage. În an address in Houston to the American Federation of Teachers, Harris, 59, focused on economic policy and workers' rights, touting plans for affordable healthcare and child care and

Monitoring Desk RIO DE JANEIRO: The

United States sees no need

to negotiate an international

agreement on taxing the su-per-wealthy, US Treasury

Secretary Janet Yellen said

on Thursday, highlighting

divisions on a plan that is

top of the agenda at a G20

finance ministers' meeting

a key priority of Brazil's

leftist president, Luiz

Inacio Lula da Silva, who

this year heads the G20

grouping of the world's major economies, the Euro-pean Union (EU) and Afri-

difficult to coordinate glo-

bally," Yellen told a press

conference in Rio de Janeiro,

ahead of an evening meet-

ing between finance minis-

or really think it's desirable

ters to discuss the topic.

"Tax policy is very

"We don't see a need

Taxing the ultra-rich is

in Rio de Janeiro.

can Union (AU).

criticising Republicans for blocking gun limits in the wake of school shootings.

"Ours is a fight for the future," Harris told a crowd of about 3,500 people. "We are in a fight for our most the future" as new opinion fundamental freedoms. And polls showed her narrowing to this room of leaders, I

> More than 100,000 predominantly white women later joined a Zoom call to raise money for Harris and discuss strategy, organisers of #AnswerTheCall said. The call followed similar ones recently among Black women, Black men and Latinas. A series of polls conducted since Biden ended his reelection bid on Sunday, including one by Reuters/Ipsos, show Harris and Trump beginning their head-to-head contest on roughly equal footing.

retaliation for Moscow's fullscale invasion. Suspended UK policeman **'assaulted** fellow cop's

Monitoring Desk ONDON: The British

family's lawyer. Lawyer

gressive taxation.' Brazil's search for a global agreement on taxing the richest of the rich is backed by France, Spain, South Africa, Colombia and the AU. "Some individuals control more resources than entire countries," Lula said on Wednesday at the launch

deal to tax super-rich that all countries should make sure that their taxation systems are fair and progressive.'

Yellen said Washington was "strongly supportive of progressive taxation, and making sure that very wealthy, high-income individuals pay their fair share.

She highlighted policies proposed by US President Joe Biden, such as a billionaires' tax, which she described as "a very worthwhile initiative." "It makes sense for most countries to take this approach of pro-

of an initiative to fight world hunger, another project topping his G20

brother'

Pakistani man who was kicked in the head and stamped on by a police officer at Manchester Airport, has a cyst on his brain, according to the

Akhmed Yakoob made this statement outside Rochdale Police Station, following the widespread circulation of footage of the incident from Manchester Airport on social media.

Mr Yakoob identified

the man as Fahir, who was found to have a cyst on his brain after a CT scan was conducted post-incident. Mr Yakoob, who is also representing Fahir's brother Amaad and their elderly mother, stated that Fahir's condition deteriorated overnight. The family alleges they were assaulted by at least one officer from Greater Manchester Police (GMP).

national convention in Houston, Texas, US. Hamas leader tortured and starved to death in Israeli custody

WEST BANK (NP): A Hamas leader died in Israeli custody in the West Bank, "We mourn the pass-Palestinian authorities and the group said Friday, as Israeli attacks against unarmed Palestinians continued unabated in Gaza.

Mustafa Muhammad Abu Ara, 63, died after being moved from a prison in southern Israel to a hospital, according to a joint statement by the Palestinian Authority's prisoners affairs body and the Pal-

People hold placards in the audience as US Vice President Kamala Harris

delivers the keynote speech at the American Federation of Teachers' 88th

ing of the leader and prisoner Sheikh Mustafa Muhammad Abu Ara and hold the occupation responsible for his assassination through deliberate medical neglect," Hamas said in a statement.

Abu Ara was arrested in October while suffering severe health problems, the Palestinian body and the watchdog said.

BJP-RSS aiming to destroy India's education sector: Congress president

NEW DELHI (INP): In a second consecutive year, scathing critique, Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge has said that the Modi government is attempting to dismantle India's educational framework through severe

budget cuts. In a post on X, Kharge condemned the budget cuts, stating, "The BJP-RSS is intent on destroying India's education sector through relentless cuts. This year's budget slashes higher education funding by a staggering Rs 9,600 crore—a re-

duction of 16.38 percent." Kharge further highlighted that the budget for premier institutions like . IITs [Indian Institutes of Technology] and IIMs [Indian Institutes of Management] has been cut for the

and the University Grants Commission (UGC) has faced a drastic 61 percent reduction. He criticized the Modi government for undermining the UGC's authority, stating, "The UGC, once the sole grant-giving body in the country, has seen its powers stripped away, compromising its autonomy." Kharge denounced what he described as a "5-pronged attack" on India's education system, saying that the Modi government was controlling universities, choking funding for autonomous institutions, eroding their independence, undermining public education through favoritism, and betraving the youth of India.

detention centre in

Russian ex-defence

minister arrested

for corruption

Monitoring Desk
MOSCOW: Russia's
Federal Security Service

(FSB) said on Friday that

Dmitry Bulgakov, a

former deputy defence

minister, had been ar-

rested and charged with

corruption, the Interfax

agency quoted the FSB as

saying that an investiga-

tion was underway to es-

tablish the facts of

Bulgakov's alleged "ille-

gal activities." It said he

The RIA state news

news agency reported.

petrol station

The Indian origin man identified as Meer Patel, 23, was arrested following an investigation by local authorities. The theft occurred when a customer purchased a lottery ticket and asked Patel to check if it was a winner by scanning it. Patel reportedly told the customer that the ticket had only won a small amount. paid out the lower prize.

Moscow **Indian-origin** man charged with stealing \$1 million lottery

dian-origin man has been charged with stealing a \$1 million-winning lottery ticket from a customer at a Murfreesboro, in the US state of Tennessee, where he was employed.

was sent to a pre-trial

ticket in US NEW YORK (INP): An In-

Monitoring Desk KAMPALA: Ugandan police detained several people

Drawing inspiration

from weeks of youth-led Kenya that forced the president there to withdraw proalleged graft by elected lead-The police quickly

those detained.

Monitor newspaper.

their protests.



Sardar Ayaz Sadiq says Proactive, inclusive parliament, pivotal for strengthening democracy

Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq on Friday said that constitutional and parliamentary supremacy was key to lead country on the path of development and prosperity.

He also said that bridging the gap between parliament and masses would render parliament stronger and more effective.

"Educated and wellawared youth is a catalyst for ensuring prosperity and economic stability" he expressed these views while addressing the Orientation Programme of Interns serving in National Assembly Secretariat at Pakistan In- corps stitute of Parliamentary Services (PIPS).

Emphasizing the significance of proactive and effective parliament, he de-

ISLAMABAD (APP): undertaken during his pre- various subjects of sociovious tenure as Speaker economic and political sig-National Assembly

He said that there was no strategy document of National Assembly and All Parties Committee was formulated to prepare a Strategic Plan. As a result, 1st Strategic Plan 2014-2018 for the sustained development and growth of the National Assembly was introduced, he added.

He said it was a holistic programme, which envisioned the development of technical skills like legislative drafting and creation of a well-resourced and efficient parliamentary services

In order to ensure quality legislative process a Legislative Drafting Council was established to asnificance for the masses, he

The Speaker highlighted the contours of Parliamentary Studies Program" as a top 25 universities of Pakistan signed a declaration to commence parliamentary studies degrees and as of now 17 of them implemented the declaration by offering it.

In addition, diplomas and short courses had also been introduced.

Dr Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin, Head of the Dawoodi Bohra community, called

AI Policy to be presented before

Cabinet for approval next

month: Ahsan Iqbal

(PML-N) government that

established the National

Center for Artificial Intelli-

gence in 2017 and the Na-

tional Task Force on Artifi-

cial Intelligence in 2023.

"We have created National

Centers for Excellence in

Advanced Technologies

under Vision 2025 and

linked each centre to engi-

neering labs in eight to ten

been established on time,

Ahsan Iqbal said the coun-

try would have been left far

past, inconsistencies in vari-

ous policies had hindered

development activities and

the uplift of the national

economy. Under a con-

spiracy, he said, the nation's

self-confidence had been

eroded, with some elements

causing serious damage to

Bugti, Mir Isa Bugti, Ali

Bugti, Fahad Bugti and

Naeebullah while the in-

jured were named as Mir

Ali Haider Bugti and Qaim

Ali who were under treat-

the police arrested 12

people belonged to both the

groups and started interro-

gating, the sources in police said. Sindh Home Min-

ister Ziaul Hassan Lanjar

took notice of the incident

and sought a report from the

additional inspector general

of police. The minister said

nobody was above the law

and possible steps would

be taken for the establish-

ment of the writ of the law.

were taken to Jinnah Hos-

pital where supporters of

both the groups remained

present throughout the

The dead and injured

After the blood clash,

ment at a hospital.

behind in this field.

Had these centres not

He noted that in the

universities," he added.

Muslim League-Nawaz its image abroad, contrary

intelligent and hardworking

economic progress began to

gain momentum, he said,

some elements appeared to

obstruct it. Now, he added,

with the initiation of the

second phase of the Paki-

stan-China Economic Cor-

ridor (CPEC), the "charac-

ters of riot and anarchy'

ter Shehbaz Sharif's recent

visit to China, the minister

said the brotherly country pledged to provide IT training to 200,000 Pakistani

youth, equipping them

with the skills needed to

developing rapidly in vari-

ous aspects of artificial in-

telligence, and Pakistan has

Nawab

Jangez Marri

takes oath as

MPA in BA

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Pakistan

Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N)-elect Member

Provincial Assembly and

the chieftain of Marri tribe.

Nawab Jangez Marri took

to catch it pace.

He said the world was

meet modern challenges.

During Prime Minis-

were active once again.

Whenever Pakistan's

on President Asif Ali Zardari at Bilawal House, Karachi.

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Minister for Planning, De-

velopment and Special Ini-

tiatives Professor Ahsan

Iqbal on Friday said the fi-

nal draft of the Artificial

Intelligence (AI) policy

would be presented to the

Federal Cabinet for ap-

Addressing a meeting of the Special Task Force

on Artificial Intelligence, he

directed the quarters con-

cerned to complete the con-

sultation process with all

stakeholders as soon as

possible, according to a news release. He highlighted

the importance of AI in the

modern era, saying "Artifi-

cial intelligence is not the

future but the present real-

ity in the world," and high-

lighted it as an essential tool

for advancement in mul-

that it was the Pakistan

The minister recalled

way in the Federal Capital.

KARACHI (INP): Five

people were killed and two

others injured when two ri-

val groups of Balochistan's

Bugti clan resorted to indiscriminate firing at each

other in Defence area of

Karachi late Thursday

night. According to police, a personal feud between

Fahad Bugti group and Ali

Haider Bugti triggered the

firefight in Khayaban-e-

Balochistan governor

Nawab Akbar Bugti. Three

deceased belonged to one

group and the other two

belonged to second group.
All the dead and the

wounded were cousins.

Two nephews of Nawab

Akbar Bugti were also

identified as Mir Mehsam

The deceased were

among the dead.

Both groups linked to

family of late

Nishat in Defence area.

ISLAMABAD: Chief of the Jamaat-e-Islami Paki-

stan (JI) Hafiz Naeem ur Rehman addressing dur-

ing Jamaat-e-Islami demonstration against the

country's rising inflation, at Islamabad Express-

Bad blood between rival

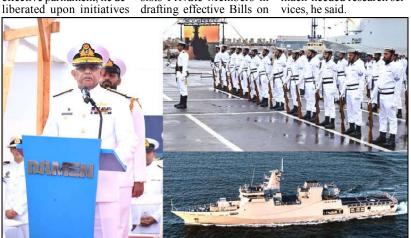
Bugti groups leaves five

ueau in Narachi's Deience

tiple fields.

proval in August.

In order to engage the educated youth of Pakistan, around 100 young fresh graduates had been recruited in the Parliament House through Young Parliamentary Associates program to serve in different departments, providing the sists Private Members in much-needed research ser-



Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf addressing the Commissioning Ceremony of Pakistan Navy Ship HUNAIN at Constanta Port, Romania.

Pakistan Navy Commissions 3rd offshore patrol vessel **PNS HUNAIN in Romania**

kistan Navy has commissioned its Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV), PNS HUNAIN at Constanta Port, Romania, where Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Naveed Ashraf graced the occasion as the Chief

Chief of the Defence Staff of Romania General Gheorghita Vlad and Chief of Romanian Navy Vice Admiral Mihai Panait also attended as guests of honour, a Pakistan Navy news release said.

While addressing the ceremony, Chief of the Na- and erations with the induction to Pakistan Navy.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa- of PNS HUNAIN. He ex pressed his confidence that induction of these multipurpose and highly adaptive platforms; equipped with state-of-the-art weapons/ sensors suite, will further enhance PN forward presence and perpetual operational readiness vis-à-vis deployment on Regional Maritime Security Patrols (RMSP) in the Indian Ocean Region.

Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf commended the exceptional professionalism dedication val Staff emphasized on DAMEN Shipyard and the significance of the expressed confidence in project and highlighted the prospects of future additional set of capabilities cooperation in delivering added to PN sphere of op- cutting-edge technologies

Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin calls on President

KARACHI (APP):Head of Dawoodi Bohra community Syedna Mufaddal Saududdin called on President Asif Ali Zardari here at Bilawal House on Friday. Speaking on the occa

sion, President Asif Ali Zardari said that the Bohra community was playing a significant role in the socioeconomic development of Pakistan. The President said that the Bohra community was actively participating in the economy and business sectors of Pakistan. President Zardari said the services of Bohra community in education, health and other sectors are commendable. The President also appreciated the services of Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin for Pakistan in



QUETTA: Provincial Ministers Mir Sadiq Umrani, Bakht Muhammad Kakar, Parliamentary Secretary Haji Wali Muhammad Noorzai and MPAs Asghar Ali Tareen and Mir Ghulam Dastagir Badini talking with Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti after conclusion of Assembly session

Shaza announces initiation of legal battle against those involved in making deepfake video of Azma

ISLAMABAD (APP): State Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication, Shaza Fatima Khawaja, announced on Friday the initiation of a legal battle against those involved in making a deepfake video of Provincial Information

Minister Azma Bukhari. Addressing a press conference alongside the Coordinator to the Prime

Alam, Shaista Pervaiz Malik, and other Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) women leaders. she said that the original video and related information had been obtained.

She expressed gratitude to social media platforms for removing the video and assured that the government would pursue Minister on Climate fectively and forcefully.

Summer vacations extended for 15 days in summer zone of Balochistan

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Education Department, Government of Balochistan has extended long summer vacations for 15 days in the educational institutions fall in the summer zone of province.

According to an official notification issued here the other day, the summer vacations have been extended in the educational institutions till August 15,

It may be mentioned here that all the educational institutions were scheduled to reopen on August 1 after cations.

end of the summer vaca-

However, the summer vacations were extended due to the heat wave in summer zone of the prov-

It may also be mentioned here that the summer vacations had been started in educational institutions of the summer zone from mid of May this year.

The educational institutions located in the winter zone of Balochistan are already closed in connection with the short summer va-

for successful operation ISLAMABAD (APP)

Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi has lauded security forces for their successful operation against ter-rorists in Hoshab, Balochistan. He praised the rity Forces in defeating the nefarious designs of the ter-

Naqvi praises security forces

swift response of the Secu-

HUB: Activists of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI-F) are holding protest rally for acceptance of their demands, in Hub. Dr. Rubaba Buledi says 22% population of Balochistan

access to basic health facilities QUETTA (APP): Advisor Chief Minister Balochistan for Women Development Dr. Rababa Khan Buledi on Friday said that only 22 percent of the total population of the province has access to basic health facilities, comprehensive measures would be taken to ensure best health

care facilities to the masses. Director General Balochistan Health Services Dr. Amin Mandokhail met with Adviser Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi.

During the meeting, the discussion focused on the current state of healthcare services and the challenges faced by female healthcare professionals in the province.

Dr. Amin Mandokhail provided a comprehensive overview of the healthcare

services provided by the Balochistan Health Department. He highlighted the pressing issues faced by female doctors, nurses, and medical technicians, which include inadequate facilities, lack of security, and limited career progression opportunities. Talking in the meeting, she said long-term programs are being devised to make health facilities accessible to everyone through

public-private partnership. Adviser to the Chief Minister announced that the Women Development Department will soon sign a memorandum of understanding with the Health Department. This MoU will facilitate joint efforts to address health issues faced by women

Balochistan.

aims to create a supportive environment for our female healthcare professionals and improve healthcare services for women across the province". Dr. Rababa Khan Bildi assured that concrete steps would be taken to resolve the problems faced by women doctors, nurses and medical technicians of the province on behalf of the Women's Development Department.

'The health and wellbeing of our women are paramount. Female doctors, nurses and medical technicians are the backbone of our medical system, and it is crucial that we address their concerns promptly,' said Dr. Buledi. She also emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts to enhance the healthcare system in Balochistan.

ADB approves \$400mln flood recovery loan for Pakistan

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Friday approved a \$400 million concessional loan to support the reconstruction of houses and community infrastructure in Pakistan's Sindh province damaged by the devastating floods in

The Sindh Emergency Housing Reconstruction Project will rehabilitate flood-damaged houses and community infrastructure and support livelihood recovery, with a focus on strengthening communities' resilience against climate change-induced natural hazards, according to an ADB press release received

This project is a key part of ADB's multifaceted response to Pakistan's flood crisis and forms part of the bank's commitment

ISLAMABAD (APP): total assistance from 2023 to 2025 to accelerate the

country's flood recovery. "This project will help rebuild homes and communities, and restore livelihood and basic services in Sindh, the province most affected by the devastating 2022 floods," said ADB Director General for Central and West Asia Yevgeniy

"It is part of ADB's extensive support to help Pakistan recover from the disaster which affected 33 million people and damaged houses and infrastructure across the nation," Zhukov

to provide \$1.5 billion in aged.

Sindh province sustained about 83% of the total housing damage inflicted by the 2022 floods, with around 2.1 million houses either fully destroyed or dam-



QUETTA: Speaker Balochistan Assembly Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai administering oath to newly elected MPAs Nawab Changez Marri

CM Balochistan seeks report about shortage of canal water in Naseerabad Division

Mir Sarfraz Bugti assures to resolve issues being faced by zamindars due to shortage of canal water & otherwise

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minster Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has sought the report of short-Naseerabad Division.

oath of the Assembly's membership in the session of Provincial Assembly here on Friday afternoon. The Speaker Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai administered oath resolving the issue of shortage of canal water in the division after reviewing situ-

to Nawab Jangez Marri. It may be mentioned here that Nawab Jangez Marri has been elected MPA from Kohlu after reelection / polling in differ-Sohbatpur during his visit ent constituencies last to Sohbatpur on Friday

Bugti visits Sohbatpur, condoles death of aunt of Mir Saleem Khosa

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Min ister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti visited Sohbatpur area on Fri-

day morning.

The Chief Minister was accompanied by the Provincial Ministers Mir Shoaib Nausherwani, Mir Muhammad Sadiq Umrani. Mir Muhammad Asim Kurd and Parliamentary Secretary, Muhammad Khan Lehri.

During the visit, the Chief Minister and Provincial Ministers visited the Khosa House and condoled with the Provincial Minister, Mir Saleem Ahmed Khosa the death of his

He also offered fateha for the departed soul. He prayed that may Allah Almighty rest her in

Health Department provides emergency vaccines to DHQ Hospital in Hub

HUB (APP): The Health Department on Friday provided necessary vaccines to the DHQ Hospital Hub on an emergency basis to address the critical shortage of

According to details, it was the swift action taken by the Deputy Commissioner of Hub, Ruhana Gul Kakar that prompted the Health Department to take this urgent step.

Umrani, Mir Shoaib Nausherwani, Mir Saleem

age of canal water in Seeking report from Naseerabad Division, the Chief Minister directed to take prompt measures for

was in a meeting with the ter about the issue of water longing to Naseerabad and

The Provincial Minis-

Ahmed Khosa, Mir Muhammad Asim Kurd and Parliamentary Secretary, Muhammad Khan Lehri were also present in the meeting. During the Commissioner course of meeting, the zamindars apprised the Chief Minister about the shortage of canal water and other issues being faced by them in their areas. The Provincial Minis-

ter, Mir Sadiq Umrani also The Chief Minister informed the Chief Minis-

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister assured that all out efforts to be made to resolve the issues of zamindars



QUETTA: DG Health Services Dr. Amin Mandokhail meeting with Advisor to Chief Minister Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi

NDMA to enhance disaster management, launches disaster alert app

Team Lead Manager at National Disaster Management Authority Zahra Hassan Friday disclosed that NDMA has launched the Pak Disaster Alert App, a ground breaking mobile application designed to enhance community engagement, ensure timely risk mitigation and taking a significant step towards enhancing Pakistan's disaster management capabilities by initiating the adoption of best global practices.
Talking to PTV news

channel, she said that this move aims to strengthen the country's resilience against natural and manmade disasters, adding, NDMA has established partnerships with global experts and organizations to leverage their expertise and experience in disaster management.

She added that NDMA is developing SOPs based on international best practices to ensure swift

ISLAMABAD (APP): and effective response to disasters, adding, NDMA is upgrading its early warning systems to incorporate global advancements, enabling timely alerts and evacua-tions. NDMA also publishing books in various national and regional languages to aware public, she said, adding, NDMA is promoting disaster risk reduction strategies, aligning with global frameworks, to minimize the impact of disasters. Meanwhile Deputy Manager Infrastructure Wing NDMA Mariam Qudsia added that the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) of Pakistan has been working towards enhancing its disaster management capabilities and infrastructure development in remote areas. NDMA has launched a material hub for 6 districts of Pakistan to control di-

saster, which aims to provide a centralized location for storing and distributing disaster-related materials.



QUETTA: Provincial Secretary Information Imran Khan being briefed during his visit of Directorate of Public Relations Balochistan. DGPR Balochistan Muhammad Noor Khetran is also present